This weekend's weather:
Saturday: Scattered Showers
Sunday: Scattered Showers

On Campus:
All That Jazz
KJ Auditorium
Fri. 10 PM, Sat 6:30 PM

The Spectator

Hamilton College
Clinton, New York
March 31, 2000

Volume XXXX
Number 19
Covering Hamilton since 1899

"And I'll tell it and think it and speak it and breathe it,
And reflect it from the mountain
so all souls can see it...."
-Bob Dylan

Drunken follies lead to hard alcohol ban at parties

By W. J. Gormley
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

In response to recent violations of college alcohol policy, the officers of the college have decided to ban hard alcohol from all school-owned social spaces. This announcement came following the annual Mardi Gras Party, thrown in Bundy Dining hall by the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity.

In her e-mail to the campus, Acting Dean of Students Nancy Thompson stated that, "Since excessive alcohol consumption was the contributing factor in at least two of the more serious incidents, President Tobin and the college officers have determined that hard alcohol will no longer be permitted at any college social space events."

The e-mail went on to state that the AD party, which occurred on March 5th, was in "flagrant violation of social host guidelines." *The Spectator* has learned that these violations allegedly include, but are not limited to, the serving of alcohol to minors, the serving of alcohol to intoxicated persons, and the presence of "trash can" punch.

AD president and Vice- President of Student Assembly Dave Bugliari'01 concedes that "there were some violations of the social host code, after carding the brothers were not properly marking hands" and that "in retrospect we would have benefited by shutting down the party early. It was never our intention to risk anyone's safety or to get anyone sick. I hope the situation never happens to another group hosting an event." Bugliari believes that the high number of EMT calls both related and unrelated to the party were triggered by freshmen who had a lot to drink before the event.

"People in general feel that what caused the commotion was that there were no recent Bundy parties and hard pregaming before the party contributed to an ultra intense atmosphere." Bugliari also felt that heavy drinking prior to the party was a result of the limit placed on the number of kegs allowed in Bundy. The keg limit traditionally causes long lines, thus encouraging extensive pregaming.

In an interview with *The Spectator* on the decision to ban hard alcohol from campus parties in the wake of this event, Thompson commented,"The college is investigating individuals and the group for violation of college policy" and that in the days following the party, "It became apparent that their were major problems with the event."

According to the Social Host for the event, senior AD brother Pete Bellard '00 said, "people have said that the level of sexual content was higher than normal but I didn't see anything more than at any normal Bundy party." According to Bellard, AD had exactly the amount of alcohol that was approved for the party, 6 kegs and 2 handles. Any claims that AD was "hazing the Hamilton Community is just ludicrous." The "trash can punch" was non- alcoholic and offered as an alternative beverage as outlined on the Social Host responsibility forms. Bellard feels that what happened at the party was normal for this type of event and that "it is all crashing down around us ... it is not fair." He goes on, "whatever action that individuals take is on their own accord."

Director of Campus Safety Pat Ingalls commented, "Students need to realize that it is the responsibility of the organization and the person signing the host responsibility form to make sure that they are following the rules governing social events, i.e. carding all party goers, respecting the limits of alcohol set forth on the form etc."

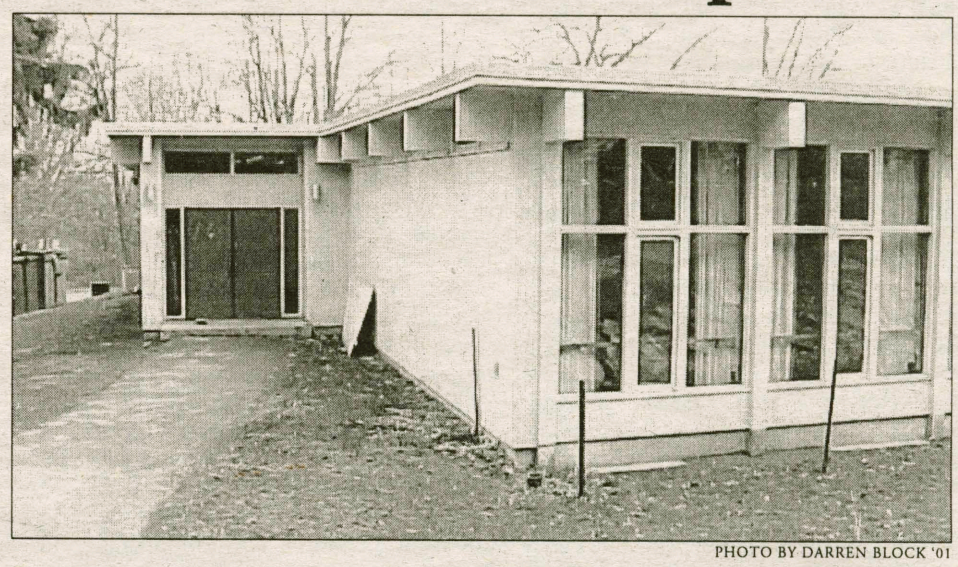

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

Bundy dining hall was the site of the much talked-about Mardi Gras party. Events at the party have led to a re-examiniation of social policies.

Furthermore, Ingalls stated, "It varies form case to case but in some instances people will be held accountable by an authority other than Hamilton College such as the courts."

On the Thursday following the event (March 11th) Thompson's community notice went out to the community. In it Thompson shared that this was a decision that had been made by the officers of the college and that, "Immediately following spring break all policies and procedures that govern the use of college social spaces will be reviewed and revised to ensure that future events are conducted in a safe and appropriate manner."

According to Thompson, the social guidelines are in place to "allow students to enjoy social functions while understanding the limits of the law." When asked why hard alcohol was targeted by the ban Thompson replied, "the problems that result from its abuse and the rapid ingestion of alcohol creates problems."

Director of Student Activities Beverly Low commented that hard alcohol can create problems because it is so difficult to measure the amount of liquor in a mixed drink. According to Lowe "a beer is a beer, people know how much they are getting." It is for this reason that trash can punch was originally banned because students being served did not know the amount of alcohol in each drink. Low also remarked that "The inten-

*see **Party**, page 2*

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

Wacky weather: Hamilton students came back from sunny spring break destinations to the cold, rain, sleet, and snow of Clinton, NY.

Admissions Office: Applicant quality up, quantity down

By David Zane '02
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's that time of the year for Hamilton's office of admission. The early decision acceptances are in; the regular decision acceptance letters are in the mail; and all the office of admission can do is sit back and anxiously wait students to accept them.

There are many factors that the admissions office looks at when admitting a certain student, but overall there are five goals that the office strives to meet each year:
(1) maintain an even male-female ratio.
(2) admit 451 students, while keeping full time enrollment at 1650[1].
(3) improve the overall quality of applicants (this includes SAT scores and the students in the top 10% of their class).
(4) improve diversity.
(5) accomplish all of this within the constraints of the financial aid budget.

In characterizing this year's applicant pool from preliminary data, the quality of the students accepted to Hamilton is up in every major category (view charts on page 2). Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Rit Fuller was very excited about the low acceptance rate. In fact the rate of 39% would be the second lowest since Hamilton started keeping this type of data, the lowest was 38% in 1988.

The only category where numbers are down from last year is in the total number of applicants, which was 3910 last year and 3804 this year. But, Fuller was not very concerned about this drop, as he stated, "we had ten percent more [students] enrolling in early decision than last year, this sets the stage for us to be successful."

Fuller was very enthusiastic about the preliminary data that show the Class of 2004, based on the quality of the students that acceptance letters were sent out to, was one of the best classes, statistically, in Hamilton's history. However, Fuller cautioned that it is too soon to get too excited as "all the numbers are subject to change based on which of the [regular decision] students accept us." As this happens numbers may fluctuate. In order to understand the Dean's guarded optimism, one must look at Hamilton's yield rate, which has traditionally been to enroll one out of every five accepted students. Another reason for optimism is the strength of the early decision applicant pool, because in accepting a student early decision, Hamilton is saving itself from taking four other less qualified students.

This jump in quality is not just a product of one year's hard work by the admissions office, but the culmination of years of work. Since Fuller arrived on the job in 1994, Hamilton has risen from a dismal 29th place in the US News and World Report college rankings to a current-day 18th. But, there is a lot more to the rankings than just admissions, which accounts for a mere 15% of the

*see **Admissions**, page 2*

INSIDE

The Human Genome Project
Our science section explores sciences attempt to unlock the key to one of sciences most sought after secrets. **Page 9**

Dean of Students seach
Hamilton is in the market for a new Dean of Students for next academic year. Check out the progress of the search **Page 2**

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http://spec.hamilton.edu

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Class travels to California, presents at NASA

By Lisa Widowski '01
NEWS EDITOR

Students in Professor Raybeck's Cultural Simulation course recently traveled to the NASA-Ames complex in Santa Clara, California to present the culmination of their work in a not-so-typical class. The trip, which was funded with help from the Levitt Center and President Tobin, afforded the students an opportunity to attend and present their work at the CONTACT conference on March 4 and 5. The conference was a gathering of renowned psychologists, anthropologists, science fiction writers, including Octavia Butler, and NASA scientists from around the country.

The cultural simulation course is essentially a problem-solving course that takes an interdisciplinary approach to the assignment of creating an inhabitable community in near space, 75 years in the future. Students are selected for the course based on an essay they submit to Professor Raybeck, highlighting what contributions they believe they can make to the course and to the assigned mission. Each student comes from a varied academic background, and brings different expertise to the project. Every field from geology to government is represented by the students in this year's version of the class. The course is taught every other year, with its inception in 1992.

Charged with the task of creating this futuristic community, the students in this year's course chose Mars as the site for their colony. The group fittingly decided on the colony name of Abeona, after the Roman goddess of children going off to live on their own. The colony is 14 stories tall, weighs in excess of 20,000 tons and sits atop a platform on the surface of Mars.

According to Professor Raybeck, the provisions dictating the creation and maintenance of this community must be "scientifically defensible," with the main objectives being eventual self-sufficiency and the creation of an outpost for colonization. The students work together via a world wide web forum onto which they post their work. Interestingly, the program for the forum was written by Hamilton students as a computer science senior project.

Raybeck noted that, while this course is a departure from the traditional class, in terms of format and the fact that it is not a "content course," students learn "how to do good, quick research, how to cooperate, and how to solve problems."

As course member and team captain Caitlyn Cook '01 explained, "We learn things that you wouldn't learn in a traditional class...such as how to work with people and how to deal with people with completely different ideas."

Historian Allison Root also noted the importance of cooperation. "Nothing will get done if we don't work together," she said.

The class participants must learn to deal with the problems that arise, not only in terms of conflicting ideas about the project, but also in the form of "tweaks" introduced into the project by Raybeck. These "tweaks" are pesky problems that can crop up in the community, due to a weakness in design, or a possible oversight. Recent tweaks include the escape of rats from the psychological laboratory, and some structural instability due to the construction of the colony on a layer of perma-frost. While these may be seemingly simple problems at first glance, when considering the implications for the entire community of 300 individuals situated on Mars, the tweaks become quite complex and group cooperation is key in rectifying the situations.

Each student brings a different kind of knowledge to the table when attempting to solve a tweak or simulate a different aspect of the community. Very few participants have the same major. There is the captain, in charge of overseeing and mediating the group, a historian, a construction chief, a chief of psychology, a person in charge of transport and economy, an expert on government and international relations, and many more. Every aspect of a society, from sanitation, to biology and food, to medical concerns, are considered by the students in this project.

Cook noted that the varied backgrounds of each participant are crucial in the creation of the colony, since "people outside of your field can offer a different point of view and approach a problem differently."

Root agrees, "the interdisciplinary aspect is very important...I'm an English and philosophy major and I'm kind of forced to participate in scientific and government aspects in the course...stepping out of your comfort zone and looking at things in a different way is a big part of it." Root went on to say that as a senior, this course is a great way to "end my time at Hamilton."

Cook echoes Root's enthusiasm, "I adore this class, it allows you to combine honest to God research with pure imagination...I'm so happy to be a part of it." Cook said.

Wanted: Dean of Students

James P. Du Vernay '03
NEWS WRITER

Hamilton College has enlisted the services of a nationwide search firm in its efforts to select a new Dean of Students for the following year. Search committee co-chairman and Associate Professor of History Douglas Ambrose reports that the Dean of Students Search Committee is awaiting the results of a nationwide search for qualified candidates before the final selection process begins in earnest this spring.

To ensure a complete search, the college has contracted with Diversified Search, Inc., a Philadelphia-based firm that specializes in identifying qualified candidates for academic job openings, administrative positions in particular. Committee co-chairman and College Vice President of Communications and Development Richard C. Tantillo explained that hiring such a firm proves very beneficial to the college in conducting a successful search.

"Especially for senior administrative positions the use of search firms is quite common. At this level it is very helpful. The firm knows and understands our interests and uses its resources to shift through literally hundreds of resumes to find the right match for the college." He also noted that the college has used Diversified previously when hiring Career Center Director Kino Ruth.

Ambrose added, "Diversified is confident in what they do. They are a resource that saves us time and yet we are in no way bound by their findings."

Diversified has received a "very positive response," according to Tantillo, and will present the top 6-12 candidates for the Search Committee to consider by the middle of March. The committee will then examine files on each candidate before selecting a "short list" of 3-5 candidates for college president Eugene M. Tobin. The next step will be to bring the finalists to campus for further interviews and meetings with the Hamilton community.

"We will use the balance of the spring to get to know the candidates well," Tantillo said. The Search Committee will offer its final recommendation to President Tobin, who will ultimately make the decision. The selected candidate would then take office no later than July following the end of this academic year.

Before leaving for his sabbatical last summer, President Tobin appointed Ambrose and Tantillo as co-chairmen for the search committee. Acting President Thomas Schwarz added eight additional members, including two students, two administrators, two professors, and two trustees, in the fall.

In October 1999 the search committee began drawing up a thorough list of qualifications and requirements for the position. Ambrose noted the difficulty this first step presented.

"This is an important hire because of the scope of the job and the need to wear so many hats. Other than the president, I think the dean of students has one of the largest responsibilities on campus."

The job description distributed by Diversified states that "The Dean of Students provides vision, leadership, and strong strategic direction to the Division of Student Affairs, which includes the Dean of Students Office and seven departments responsible for student services and the quality of students' co-curricular experience." These seven departments include such diverse areas as Residential Living, Student Activities, Campus Safety and Student Health Services.

Committee member Nadia Sangster '00 said that the most time-consuming aspect of this process involved meeting with faculty and staff from each of these divisions to formulate the job description.

"Seeking a broad range of inputs, we interviewed people about what qualities they expected in the dean of students. It was very involved but well worth it."

Sangster also felt that the committee treated her and fellow senior Jack Spangler, the other student representative on the committee, as equals and valued their contributions.

Once information had been gathered, the committee met with Kim Morrisson, director and founder of Diversified Search. Morrison has been coordinating the nationwide search effort since late November. A search firm typically charges a fee approximately equal to one-third of the first-year salary of the selected candidate.

Following the departure at the end of last year of Dean Jan Coates, then Associate Dean Nancy Thompson assumed the position of Acting Dean of Students in July 1999. Thompson has made herself a candidate for the permanent position, noting, "I have enjoyed being the Acting Dean and I like what I do. If I am the right person for Hamilton, that's great." She added that once the college has reached a final decision about the position, she will reassess her own relationship with the college.

"Regardless of the outcome of the search, I am certainly committed to Hamilton," Thompson said.

Hard alcohol banned

from ***Party****, page 1*

tion [of college social policy] is to allow students to consume alcohol in a responsible manner and to begin developing behavior that they will carry with them after college."

Both Low and Thompson agreed that this was not a first step in making Hamilton a "dry campus" and that no organ of the college considered that as a course of action.

President of the Inter Society Council and AD brother Bill Piontek '02 commented on the ban by stating " I understand that the school's first priority is safety and at some point that safety has not been 100% and that hard alcohol has played its role. But on the other hand, I don't feel that social events have substantively proven to be a large part of that problem. Abuse [of hard alcohol] happens at an individual level, events are pretty well maintained and it is an individual's choice whether to drink before an event or during an event. It is the individual's choice to drink beforehand, that is the most serious problem."

One anonymous society member responded to the decision to ban hard alcohol. "This action will have no positive effect on drinking at Hamilton. The idea that people will behave in a more adult manner at a keg party than they will at a cocktail party is ridiculous. This decision will only be good for the college's liability insurance, by forcing more drinking off campus."

Other student reaction has been mixed, some blaming AD for the new restrictions, some blaming the entire fraternity system and others blaming the administration for over-reacting.

Admisions selectivity increases

from ***Admissions****, page 1*

total evaluation of a school.

In addition, these statistics do not affect this year's numbers rankings, but rather the ones that will be due out in the fall 2001. This increase in selectivity is not just a one-year trend, but data from the past five years suggests that the college has become much more selective in its admissions practices.

But, no matter how much the school rises or falls in the rankings Fuller has done his job of raising the bar for next year's applicant pool. "I feel very good about the direction the college is headed...it is a positive time to be here," stated the Dean of Admission.

[1]Full-time enrollement is the total number of students present on campus for the fall and spring semesters, divided by two.

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Early Decision Acceptances[1]

	Class of 03	Class of 04
Number admitted	189	210
Mean SAT scores	1210	1226
Percentage in top 10% of class	34%	35%

[1] - students have already been admitted to Hamilton and will enroll in the Fall

DATA COURTESY OF HAMILTON OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Regular Decision Acceptances[2]

	Class of 03	Class of 04
Acceptance Rate	42%	39%
Mean SAT scores	1293	1310
Percentage in top 10% of class	75%	60%

[2]- students have been accepted but must indicate their willingness to attend Hamilton

DATA COURTESY OF HAMILTON OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled By
Christopher LaRosa '03

Suspect arrested in Costa Rica killing of Antioch College students

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — A 16-year-old suspect was identified late Sunday night in the murder of Ann Arbor resident Emily Eagen an
d her friend Emily Howell of Kentucky.

Eagen had been in Costa Rica for several days visiting Howell, who was studying abroad from Antioch College in Ohio, when their bodies were discovered on a highway March 13 many miles from their severely burned rental sports utility vehicle.

As of yesterday, the family could only report that one suspect had been arrested. Eagen's father, Charles, said the U.S. Embassy has informed the family of the arrest of the 16-year-old male suspect.

"I have no idea when more information will come, it comes when it comes and it is painfully slow," Eagen said.

Officials at the U.S. State Department's Office of Central American Affairs said yesterday that the arrested minor was in possession of a gun that is a ballistic match to the bullets found in the bodies of Howell and Eagen, who was expecting to attend the University in its non-degree program next fall.

College does room service for free

PURCHASE, N.Y. (AP) — Tara Eliason was hungry but didn't want to leave her dorm. It was noon on the day before spring break at Manhattanville College and "everything's due today," the junior economics major said. "If I go to the cafeteria, I won't get it all done."

"I thought it'd be cool to have a meal delivered," she said.

Consider it done. Manhattanville, a private college just north of New York City that costs $26,000 a year, has room service — just like a hotel.

The difference is that the student, unlike a hotel guest, can't call every day. But up to three times a semester, dorm residents can call the day before, order an entree, two side dishes and a beverage and request a delivery time.

Two weeks ago, Assistant Catering Director Alma Mojica knocked on the door of Eliason's dorm room, with its "Rugrats" bedspread and "Dawson's Creek" poster.

She carried an insulated red bag over her shoulder. Inside was a cheeseburger with lettuce and tomato, waffle fries and a bottle of Slice — just what Eliason ordered. The burger was hot, the soda cold. There was a container of ketchup, a fork, a spoon, a straw and napkins.

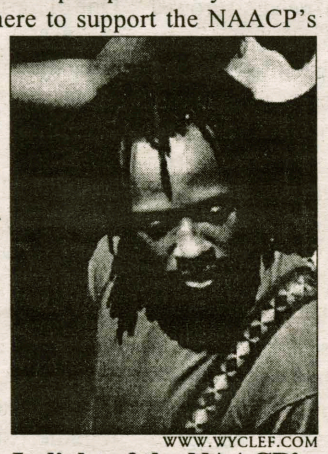
"This is great," said the 20-year-old from New York City, eating at her desk, maintaining her 3.8 grade point average.

College President Richard Berman said room service fits in with his "student-driven" policies, which have helped double the enrollment to 1,300 since he took over five years ago.

"We keep the library open until 4 a.m. We keep the financial aid office open on Saturdays," he said. "If students are happier, our retention is better and if our retention is better our recruitment will be better."

Wyclef Jean cancels S.C. concert

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Hip-hop artist Wyclef Jean canceled his performance here to support the NAACP's boycott of South Carolina, called to protest the state's flying of the Confederate flag, his publicist said.



WWW.WYCLEF.COM

In light of the NAACP's boycott of South Carolina, Wyclef Jean canceled his perforance at the College of Charleston Friday.

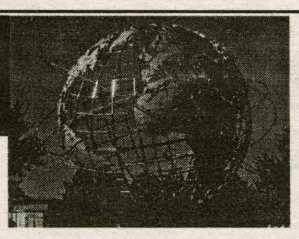
Jean was supposed to perform at a concert sponsored by the College of Charleston last Friday, but he dropped out when he found out about the booking.

Publicist Miguel Baguer said the performer didn't "become aware of the show until Thursday."

"When he realized it, he said, 'Oh my God I can't do South Carolina because of the NAACP sanctions against South Carolina.' So that's what happened," Baguer said.

The NAACP has urged travelers and entertainers to avoid South Carolina until the state removes the Confederate flag from the Statehouse dome. The boycott began Jan. 1.

WORLD NEWS



Compiled By
Christopher LaRosa '03

EU trade negotiators abandon talks

BEIJING (AP) — European trade negotiators left the bargaining table today after three days of talks, leaving it up Chinese officials whether to resume negotiations on China's long-sought entry to the World Trade Organization.

European Union and Chinese trade negotiators held their most extensive talks yet in the latest round, for hours delving into the "nitty gritty" issues, EU delegation spokesman Anthony Gooch said.

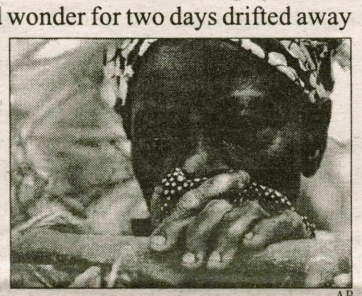
More negotiations would be needed to reach a market-access agreement, Gooch said. "We're waiting to hear from the Chinese side, as hosts, whether they wish to reconvene later today or not."

The 15-nation European Union is the most important among eight WTO members China needs to reach separate market-opening agreements with before it can join world trade's rule-setting body.

Talks between the EU and China opened amid optimism this week. Unlike two previous rounds this year, EU trade commissioner Pascal Lamy led the delegation, a sign negotiations were down to thorny political matters. He met Wednesday with Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji in another sign the sides were seeking breakthroughs.

Ugandan sect death nears 700

RUGAZI, Uganda (AP) — The children and neighbors who had looked on in horrified wonder for two days drifted away Wednesday, accustomed by now to the gruesome sight of shirtless workers tugging twisted bodies through a narrow doorway onto the green lawn.



AP

A Ugandan woman covers her nose as she watches prisoners from a nearby jail carry bodies Wednesday, March 29, from a house.

But that didn't mean the horror had ceased. The death count linked to a Christian doomsday sect climbed ever higher Wednesday — to nearly 700 — in what officials say is one of the largest mass murders in recent history.

The latest collection of twisted, decaying bodies was uncovered in the plain gray fieldstone house of Dominic Kataribabo, an excommunicated Roman Catholic priest and a sect leader.

By mid-afternoon, the workers' two-day task was complete: 81 mostly naked bodies of nameless people were pulled from the brown earth beneath the floor of a 10-by-10 foot room in Kataribabo's home, examined briefly and reburied. Earlier this week, 74 mutilated and strangled bodies, many of them children, were unearthed from a mass grave in a small sugarcane field in Kataribabo's backyard.

By Wednesday, the gruesome task had sapped the swagger of Ugandan investigators and forensics experts who arrived here Monday to figure out how so many people had died and who killed them. They had few answers, and police were looking for more graves.

40 die in Sri Lankan Plane crash

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A Sri Lankan air force plane crashed today while trying to land, killing the four Russian crew members and all 36 military personnel aboard, air force officials said.

The AN-26, bringing troops home on leave from battling rebel guerrillas, was flying from Palaly air base to the capital, Colombo, 190 miles to the south, when it developed engine trouble, the air force said.

The pilot tried to land at Thalawa, 90 miles north of the capital. But just before the plane crashed, he reported one of his two engines was on fire, said Wing Cmdr. A. Wijesundera, an air force spokesman.

Sri Lanka air force leases several planes from a Ukrainian company that provides Russian crews.

Tamil Tigers rebels have in the past shot down several aircraft during their battle with the military. The exact cause of the accident was not known.

The guerrillas have been fighting since 1983 to carve out a homeland in the northeast for the minority Tamils. More than 61,000 people have been killed in the war.

NATIONAL NEWS

Compiled By
Christopher LaRosa '03

Ruling hurts nude dancing industry

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court made it easier for local governments to ban nude dancing in about 3,000 adult clubs nationwide, ruling Wednesday that a stripper's freedom of expression can be restricted by forcing her to wear pasties and a G-string.

AP

The front door at Kandy's Dinner Theater in Erie, Pa., lets people know what to expect on the other side.

Nude dancing can be banned in an effort to combat crime and other harms that adult entertainment clubs often attract, the justices said in a splintered decision reinstating a public-nudity ordinance in Erie, Pa.

Such dancing is "expressive conduct" but it falls "only within the outer ambit" of the Constitution's First Amendment free-speech protection, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote in the court's main opinion.

The ban promotes Erie's "interest in combating the negative secondary effects associated with adult entertainment establishments," such as crime, and was not aimed at a dancer's erotic message, O'Connor said.

N.J. Mayor Milan surrenders

CAMDEN, N.J. (AP) — Mayor Milton Milan surrendered to federal authorities Thursday after the release of a federal indictment charging him with bribery, conspiracy, extortion, money laundering and fraud.

As traffic stopped and spectators poured out of office buildings, Milan, lawyer Carlos A. Martir Jr. and a crowd of reporters walked two blocks from City Hall to the U.S. attorney's office.

Milan insisted he was "absolutely not guilty" of any charges and said the case was politically motivated.

The 19-count indictment claims former Philadelphia mob boss Ralph Natale and his associates "made direct payments of money and other benefits" to Milan.

It charges that Milan received "significant personal benefits, including cash, vacation trips, dinners, automobiles and home improvements from people looking to do business with Camden."

Milan, 37, a first-term Democrat elected in 1997, has been eyed by federal authorities in a wide-ranging investigation of alleged corruption in city government. The grand jury had subpoenaed his payroll records and requested information about political fund-raising.

In recent weeks, the pace of the inquiry quickened as city lawmakers were subpoenaed by the grand jury and questioned about issues including city contracts, organized crime and contractors who performed repairs on Milan's home.

Milan's name also was mentioned prominently in the recent federal trial of two men convicted as leaders of a Camden drug ring. Several witnesses claimed Milan sold drugs in Camden in the 1980s and bought several shipments of cocaine before becoming mayor.

The Marine Corps veteran and former contractor was elected to city council in 1995 and became council president a year later. He is the first Hispanic mayor of this desperately poor city of 87,000 on the Delaware River across from Philadelphia.

EPA using new ways to deal with DDT

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Federal officials say they will toughen measures to prevent consumption of fish tainted by a huge deposit of DDT on the ocean floor.

The pesticide has contaminated Santa Monica Bay's Palos Verdes Shelf for a half-century and earned a Superfund designation.

"This is the largest DDT contamination site in the country," the Environmental Protection Agency's Keith Takata said Wednesday. "The first step to protect the public health is to make sure people aren't eating white croaker contaminated with dangerous levels of DDT."

Additionally, the EPA in July will launch a three-month pilot project to cap 180 acres of ocean floor along the Los Angeles coast with sand and silt to prevent the spread of the pesticide.

Insight & Ideas

Do you Dream?

Seth O'Bryan
The Daily Truth

How do you challenge the status of an institution that has existed for almost 190 years? Lying before me are over three pages of notes with my thoughts about our college. I have this dream about what Hamilton College can be; it is what college was originally meant to be. The ideals and principles that college is based on have the potential to exist on our campus. Do you dream? And what is it that you dream about? Do you still have ideals and principles you abide by? Can you be a better person? Can this college be a better college? Are you, we, doing anything about that? Is contentment good enough? Do we need change? W.E.B DuBois once wrote, "True College will have one goal—not to earn meat, but to know the end and aim of that life which meat nourishes." Is this what you're doing at Hamilton?

Since the first day I stepped foot on this campus, I've been overwhelmed. Students, professors, secretaries, deans, coaches, counselors, you all impress me. The potential, wisdom, talent and heart, is incredible. But it seems to me that a great deal of this beauty is kept hidden. We live safely accepting a nice content life, rarely challenging the way of life we know by trying new things or experimenting with change. My impression is that often the social life is the most important part of college, which is good, but that depends on what type of social life. I hear more talk about a party or the night drinking than I do about some idea discussed in class or some thought one was pondering. Too many times I'm the same way. What is most important to you?

Occasionally, I'm captivated by the discussions in my classes, and I think it would be cool to discuss life, simple matters, or anything with these people; I would love to get their perspective on things. Although, usually in class discussions it feels more like students are just saying what the professor wants to hear and the discussions are not round table but dominated by the professor's thoughts. So often it seems like grades are the most important part of going to class. We should be at class to learn and write papers to explore our own thoughts and ideas. It shouldn't be a chore to go to class, but often it is. Before I came to college, I dreamt that I would only be going to class to learn.

How often do you discuss life, concepts, and ideas outside of class? How much are you holding back? Are you willing to take the chance to dream? Am I wrong? Is this an intellectual campus? What are the most popular things on campus? If you had something to say, would you speak out, rather than chalking and hiding your voice? If I write this piece, will you discuss it in a mature manner? If you disagree with me, will you tell me why without getting upset, without making fun of me? Are you willing to participate in an open forum for ideas? Something not created by the campus, but something run by some thinkers, just chatting, honest discussion without being judged? Why do we go to the same parties every weekend? What is most important to you? I'm not writing to express my ideas as much as I want to hear yours. I have pages of notes, of thoughts, I could write. But I'm more enchanted by wondering what you are thinking. We all have a voice. Let's each use it. We can work on whatever is wrong. But what is wrong? Is the Greek life more of a positive or negative influence on campus? What do you think of the problem of the one and the many? What do you think about love?

Forget about grades, money, jobs, parties, what other people think. What is important to you? I have gotten sucked into the comfort zone at Hamilton, and I've lost the ideals and dreams I had when I came here. I'm ready to step outside of that comfort zone, try new things, and spend the rest of my time here at its fullest. I challenge you to do the same. I just want to know if I'm the only one that feels this way. Maybe it is just me. I want to lose the falsities about me, forget about material concerns, and talk, just talk and listen to what others think. I want to learn about life and me, more than I have so far here. Silence implies contentment; it means you don't think we need change. Are you afraid, are you ever scared, do you think you are giving life the best you can? Are you letting your heart free, exploring your potential? What are your thoughts?????

Professors, students, administrators, all of you, I ask you to speak up. Email me, email *The Spec*. I know there are already meetings, different groups, that discuss Hamilton, but are you interested in another? A strictly grassroots forum for thoughts about anything, like a town meeting? Do you have any similar thoughts as me? Or am I just out on my own planet? Wake up. Tell me I'm wrong, tell me I'm right, tell me a story. Just tell me something. I'm interested in change, are you? Again, W.E.B DuBois wrote:

"The function of the university is not simply to teach bread-winning, or to furnish teachers for the public schools, or to be a centre of polite society; it is above all, to be the organ of that fine adjustment between real life and the growing knowledge of life, an adjustment which forms the secret of civilization."

PS. I hope I don't sound bitter or unhappy. I am happy at Hamilton, it's just that I know there is the potential here for something more, something much more special. sobryan@hamilton.edu, spec@hamilton.edu

Chalk it up to Free Speech

Justin Tyler

There was a lot of hoopla before spring break concerning the anti-Greek chalkings that covered Martin's Way. Everyone was offended, from fraternity members to pagans. The author behind the chalkings has chosen to remain anonymous and, save this issue of the paper, thetopic has faded away. Does that worry anyone else? I find it disturbing that on a college campus with an impressive student body such as ours, a statement of this magnitude involving an issue that affects the entire campus can be so easily shrugged off. All of the trash talk, the disgusted looks, the turned heads, the subtle smiles; all of it, approval and disapproval, amounted to nothing as soon as the rain washed that chalk away. Except for a few people crying "Offense!" no one has bothered to address the issue. Where is everybody? Greek societies- the fundamental basis of your groups were trashed on for all the world to see and you don't care? Anti-Greeks - somebody challenged society life on a campus wide scale and you have nothing to say? Where is everyone else's opinion? Whatever happened to free speech around here?

Discussion on this campus is dead. Beyond the casual social group conversations we may have, there is nothing. How many debates are there on this campus? What "hot issues" are everyone talking about? Parking? No, that's complaining. Five years ago *The Spectator*'s editorial page was the biggest part of the paper. Students wrote actively, responding to the articles of their peers, rabidly debating the topics of the day. Now, the Insights and Ideas section is lucky to get horoscopes and a biting letter about Spectro-Derm. Has Hamilton College gotten dumber? No, we're more selective in admissions than ever. Nothing to talk about? Not a chance. Look at curriculum changes, the stagnant social life, the shenanigans of the Mardi Gras party, the value of Greek societies, and God forbid we acknowledge anything outside of our bubble. So what is the problem?

Unfortunately, this problem is not limited to the Hamilton campus. All over the country people have suddenly become silent. The United States has fallen victim to a fear of expression. The epidemic of sexual harassment cases has limited on the job dialogue to "Good morning" and "Pass the salt". Computer programs are being installed in office buildings everywhere that monitor what employees write even in personal e-mail. If a child so much as insults a teacher it's a suspected death threat. We've lowered the bar of what is free speech to that of the most sensitive in our society. The listener gets to decide what things mean, no matter what the intentions are. And if someone does slip and say "the wrong thing", then it's off to court. People won't settle for an apology anymore, no matter how innocent the speech was. Now offense equals cash compensation. It's a fight to see who can be the most offended and grab the biggest payoff. We're killing free speech one litigation at a time.

College campuses used to be immune to such barriers. Throughout history, the college atmosphere has been the breeding ground for the fiercest of debates. The strongest movements of the century have found their homes in the universities across this nation; civil rights, anti-war, environmental, etc. However, colleges now are no better than the stagnant world around them. When was the last protest at Hamilton College? What is the hottest issue on this campus right now? Is there one? The recent attempts to foster debate on this campus have been ineffective. The chalkings were useless, aimed more at offending Greek societies than reaching any sort of dialogue. Most responses to it have been more of the same, shots at the author of the chalkings rather than a discussion of the principles behind it. There is no longer a drive to argue until a solution can be found, rather you insult those that insult you with their ideals. People are so afraid to argue a point with their peers. We've become so self-conscious about being challenged for what we say. Most people either back down and sacrifice their standpoint or resort to personal attacks. This practice has even filtered into the classroom s. How many classes on this campus inspire vibrant debate on a regular basis? Students have become afraid to speak their mind; our college has become intellectually static in that regard. We cannot learn or achieve to our great potential when our discourse in limited this way.

What can be done? Is it too late to resurrect free speech on this campus? No. One of the major problems is that we have no forum to discuss the issues that affect us. *The Spectator* is a place to express yourself, but there is no life in the debate. The printed word can be powerful but by the time a response is ublished, the moment of passion has passed. The Student Assembly is supposed to be a forum for debate but nothing seems to come of it. We need something new, a place where views can clash, where arguments can occur without fear of personal attack and offense. Seth O'Bryan envisions such a place. He suggests we create a town hall style forum where we can all come together, students, faculty and anyone else with an interest, and discuss the things that we find important. I believe that this idea is a step in the right direction. A place such as this could invigorate speech on this campus and make Hamilton College a place where we can truly learn.

Anyone out there interested in such a place can e-mail spec@hamilton.edu, sobryan@hamilton.edu or jtyler@hamilton.edu.

Inter Society Council: Anti-Greek Propaganda

I am writing today on behalf of the Inter Society Council to address some issues that seem to have been arising lately across Hamilton. As most of you probably know, the ISC is the governing body of all societies and its main objective is to look out for the interests of the Hamilton community, in addition to Greek life here. My main concerns center on the presence of anti-Greek propaganda that seems to have been plaguing our school recently. I hope that by the end of this you will have a clearer understanding of what it is like to be in a society, as well as the ISC's goals and its feelings on Hamilton's current state.

Bill Piontek

After the two incidents that occurred just before Spring Break, it should not come as any surprise that the ISC would have an opinion to voice. I am speaking about the "Society Update" featured in *The Spectator*, that both stereotyped and insulted our societies, and the chalking on Martin's way just days after--an expression of free speech that contained more anger and animosity than we should see on this campus. I am more concerned about helping those involved in these two incidents to gain a better understanding of what society life is like than I am about criticizing and expressing outrage at such deeds.

First, let me address a formal opinion of what we in the Inter Society Council think of these two incidents. I will try to put aside the humiliation, degradation, and hurt feelings that resulted from the occurrences, for I feel that it goes without saying that the things said would have this affect on some. For more productive purposes I would like to explain our point of view as these actions do more than just insult Greeks. Simply put, these actions hurt the Hamilton community at large. We believe that it was a poor judgment call on the part of those involved. To *The Spectator*-you must realize that Trustees were here that weekend and that the subscription list to parents and other schools is quite large. As Business Manager for *The Spec*, it twisted my stomach to have to send that issue home to our mothers and fathers. To the chalkers-tours and administrators walk Martin's way as well as the student body. I understand your right to expression and commend your motivation to exercise that liberty, but ladies and gentlemen, this was just a poor choice, and actions like these, aimed at anyone, are not helping our school in any way. Rather, they are a stab at the heart of what we, as societies, would like to help create here at Hamilton: a community not described, as you may have heard it, by words like apathy, cynicism, and even fascism. Moreover, it was a stab at my own self to comprehend that some may view my life in a fraternity as such. Therefore, I would like to devote the rest of this editorial to the purpose of explaining what the rest of Hamilton may not know or may underestimate about life in a society and the goals of the ISC.

When I took office as president of the Inter Society Council I was consumed with pride. The reason for this lies in the value that I see behind Greek life and the potential that the ISC has to make positive changes at Hamilton. Last semester, when the current ISC went by the title of the ISC Blue Print Committee, we spent hours on end rewriting the ISC Constitution, with the hopes of forming a council that would best govern societies and provide for the community as a whole. One of our exercises consisted of brainstorming a list of words, concepts, activities, and the like, that make being in a society a positive experience. Bev Low got an easel with large poster sheets and we all began shouting out ideas. Some words that we came up with were leadership, responsibility, friendship, knowledge, citizenship, community service, organization, and communication. The list was endless, as these are some of the ideals that one gains from being in a society, and I promise that if you ask any member, they will state that their skills or experience in these areas increased after becoming part of their society. Taking advantage of such an opportunity offers great rewards. The people you meet, the friendships you make and the knowledge you gain cannot be paralleled.

Spending a semester and a half researching Greek life on our campus and others, as well as participating in the ISC has given me such a positive outlook on societal life, I feel I could write forever. Instead, I would rather invite those who took part in the two situations discussed above, and all members of Hamilton, to contact myself or any member of the ISC with questions or concerns. If you would like to know how we feel about the new alcohol policy, what exactly we've done for community service, or if you are even curious about what we actually do in societies, feel free to attend our open meetings in Bristol basement on Mondays at 5:30. My current office hours are Monday and Wednesday 4:00-5:30 if you would like to speak with me directly. The Inter Society Council plans on doing what it can to better our community. Hamilton should prepare itself for a new era, an era in which societies and the ISC as a whole will take an active role on campus through community service, speakers, workshops, and social events, such as an ISC barbecue, to improve life here and generate a more positive community. We hope that you will give us a chance to show you that values do exist in Greek life and ask you alsoto do what is best for Hamilton. Help us to create a Hamiltonian utopia.

Hate Chalk

After hitting snooze 5 or six times this morning, I managed to get out of bed to discover that it was a beautiful, (almost spring-like) day. After getting dressed I began my journey to the Kirkland side of campus where I saw the remnants of a "hate crime". The hate was towards all "Greeks" (or people in a fraternity or sorority) and the crime was vandalism.

Before reading on, please note that Webster's defines a hate crime as any of various crimes (as assault or defacement of property) when motivated by hostility, to the victim as a member of a group. While this crime is not nearly as serious as some, I felt it could not go untouched or ignored. I am writing this letter to make others aware of my feelings and to address you (the people with the chalk).

Dave Bugliari

First and foremost, I commend the student or group of students (I assume) for exercising your right to free speech. However, my concerns lay with your tact, choice of words/symbols, anonymity and what seems like your failure to acknowledge other rights of all humans on U.S. soil.

The Issue of Tact:

It seemed that your efforts were to insult and degrade rather than to increase campus awareness about your pressing issue. Your chalkings were in many ways counter productive in that they would preach one thing, "we are all brothers and sisters" while five yards away one would read, "Greeks go Home!" Is this teaching a lesson about how to unite together as brothers and sisters? Or are your statements further segregating our campus?

Your Use of Words and Symbols:

Your use of words and symbols closely relates to your tact. It is the general effort of most people to eliminate stereotypes. You, on the other hand, cast aspersions that all "Greeks" are a) Spawns of Satan (your use of a pentagram, which could have been a symbol for group secrecy until you threw a 13 in the center) b) people who pay for friendships, c) people who drink uncontrollably, d) elitists, e) and this is the kicker, all Greeks are apparently rapists. Ask yourself, Are you helping or hurting? By creating and reinforcing these accusations, you are spitting on the ideals and efforts to overcome stereotypes and "shift the center." You ask in your chalkings "who are you to judge me?" Allow me to ask you, who are you to judge, generalize and assume similarities about over 430 students on this campus?

Your Anonymity:

Other groups on campus like the Rainbow Alliance chalk the walkways to increase awareness. They put a great deal of effort into getting the attention of the community. They make people aware of their organization, the problem of homophobia on campus, and the need for society to become more accepting. The difference is, they don't hide behind their chalk. Everyone knows that The Rainbow Alliance and its supporters are the people behind that chalk. However, You have simply grouped yourselves as the "Anonymous Angry Greek Haters."

Your chalkings bash conformity and state that you "vote Greeks out" and in general express disgust for all society life. As I mentioned earlier, all of these statements fall under your right to free speech. However, you fail to recognize that all people also have the freedom of association.

I understand that some negative connotations follow Greek life due to its secret and obscure nature. Furthermore, in some cases "Greeks" may be responsible for some of the accusations you have cast. However, it is simply unfair and unrealistic to limit your accusations to Greeks. As it is unfair to limit stealing to poor people and murder to crazy people.

I write this article not as a president of a society but instead as a student concerned about the tone, anger, and basic thoughtlessness in you chalk writings. You have a right to your opinion, but your opinion does not give you the right to negatively generalize and publicly insult any group of people on our campus.

Want your opinion to be heard?
All out of chalk?

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Elections Ahead!

Elections for all positions for the Classes of 2001, 2002, 2003

- President
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Judicial Board Elections will also be held. This position is open to anyone who has served as a Judicial Board Representative

Elections for Presidents and Judicial Board Chair will be held Wednesday, April 19, 2000 in Beinecke Student Activities Village

Elections for all other positions will be held Wednesday, April 26, 2000 in Beinecke Student Activities Village.

Petitions will be available at the Mail Center

Questions? Contact Meghan Reynolds at mreynold@hamilton.edu

LETTERS

Editors:

I am writing in response to the recent comments made by Kyle Harris in regard to a students behavior in Sangertown Mall. Well Kyle, who are you to decide if children were endangered? Parents have a right to decide what their children should and should not be exposed to. Mr. Whonson took away that right. In addition, the only "irony" that has occured in this whole ordeal, is the fact that a Hamilton College student is protesting big business.

As a recent graduate, I welcome Mr. Whonson to his first taste of life in the real world. A world where you are intensely responsible for your actions. Unfortunately, for him, his first taste will be with courts, lawyers, fines and a record.

Lastly, since Mr Whonson is such an activist against the oppresive capitalist system, he should try not engaging in it, and representing himself at his hearings. Lawyers like capital.

Ryan Mc Neal

Dear *Spectator*,

The March 3, 2000 edition of *The Spec* was awful and here's why:

1. Student Streaks Through Sangertown Square Mall: Flashy stunt could result in criminal convictions for students. You concentrate on how "against the rules" it was to do such a "flashy stunt". You choose not to place importance on the fact that a student has taken a risk for what he believes. That doesn't happen often here, and instead of applauding his bravery, you use nine lines out of eighty to explain his motives. You discourage free expression and opinion, and then complain about student apathy.

2. Hamilton campus damage; not unique to the hill: "Campus Security has set up an anonymous e-mailing system that will benefit both you and the school". This article encourages students to turn in fellow students instead of solving problems between themselves. How does this add to our sense of community? You conform to College mandate instead of stoppin to question.

3. On Page 6, you criticize the Greek system for "cutting up our campus into tiny islands of life". Then, on Page 14, you divide up the Greek system by targeting stereotypes and in one case, an individual. Your social critic failed to put his name under the title, yet felt brave enough to put someone else's on trial. Now, instead of conforming to a Greek society, students conform to the Administration's vision of what Hamilton Society will be.

Don't claim to represent student opinion in these articles. Don't tear apart the Greek system and then show up at Bundy next weekend. Don't let the Administration's "Social Norms Campaign leech into every corner of our community. If you write conformity, the students, faculty, administrators, alumni, and trustees read it.

James Bentley '01

From the Editor:

Before spring break I was eating lunch on the porch of the Pub when I was shocked by some statements I heard coming from another table. Two tables away three upper class AD brothers were discussing what transpired during their Mardi Gras party on the preceding weekend. What I thought was so disturbing was the complete lack of reponsibility and tact that this conversation implied. One of the gentlemen asked, "Why did that girl have to get her stomach pumped? Once the alcohol is in your stomach isn't it already digested? What, she couldn't handle it or something?" This painful lack of understanding of the basics of what alcohol does in your body is dangerous, especially coming from a senior member of a fraternity who must have attended the alcohol policy seminars. They went on to discuss how ludicrous it is that they will be held accountable for the students that required medical attention after attending their party. Whether students have been drinking before they enter the party or not, once they walk into any organized group's function and get a drink, they become that group's responsibility. They went on to agree that there are no good parties on this campus anymore because "this campus is a bunch of pussies". They long for the days of the past where everyone could apparently drink like real men. Perhaps the most shocking of statements I heard was "Well, we put a girl in the hospital, that must have been a good party." This blatant lack of compassion for a student in serious medical condition makes me realize what a wonder it is that no one has been killed on this campus from excessive drinking. The fact that these opinions were coming from upperclassmen who may be looked up to for leadership within the fraternity is unforunate. I can only hope that these comments were lapses in the true feelings of these three people. I am sure they will not appreciate that what they said is being printed but statements as alarming as these should be shared with the general public if for no other reason than to open people's eyes to the potential for more serious problems in the future.

Justin Tyler '01

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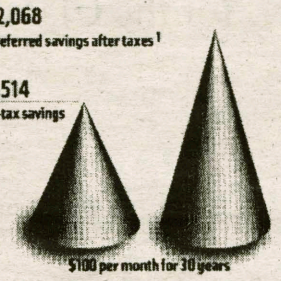

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Weekend Horoscopes

Capricorn (December 21- January 19)
Sometimes the people that you may have to work with might not have it all together but the fact that you do outshines them all.
Your lucky construction activity this weekend: Roofing

Aquarius (January 20 - February 17)
A wise man always has the courage to be himself, even though he may not always want to be.
Your lucky food this weekend: Lasagna

Pisces (February 18 - March 19)
Your fearless leadership skills are well received no matter what state your clothes may be in.
Your lucky supermarket: Food Lion

Aries (March 20 - April 19)
Your vulgarity does not matter as long as you remain faithful to the man above.
Your lucky state this weekend: Alabama

Taurus (April 20 - May 19)
Always remember that it is okay to be the only one left as long as you have someone else to share the late night snacks with.
Your lucky snack this weekend: Chips and Cheese

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
You have had some quality time to yourself in the past two weeks, now go out and be that good old sociable self of yours (perhaps an ice fight or gummy frogs will help).
Your lucky store this weekend: Old Navy

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
Your sense of humor and good spirit can turn any place into a happy one, even the happiest place on earth.
Your lucky band this weekend: A sneaky one

Leo (July 22 - August 22)
Have no fear, your work issues will work themselves out and you will graduate from Hamilton.
Your lucky pastime this weekend: Checkers

Virgo (August 23 - September 21)
Although some may say that you are a top 10 kinda person, you must remember that as much as you might not want to realize it, there might be people with smaller tubes of toothpaste than you.
Your lucky design technique this weekend: Pointilism

Libra (September 22 - October 22)
As long as you believe that you are a good driver no one can tell you otherwise, well unless you have some issues to deal with when it comes to braking.
Your lucky soda this weekend: Mountain Lion

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)
You have been waiting for something and it is finally here, enjoy it while it lasts.
Your lucky subject this weekend: Physics

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 20)
Beware of strange little men who love to bring you gifts, especially anything beaded.
Your lucky drink this weekend: Mad Dog

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Promoting responsible drinking on campus

Everywhere you look today it is preached in commercials, on billboards, by our parents and our administrators, but many of us don't even pay attention to it.

How many times have you heard the line "please drink responsibly" at the end of a Budweiser commercial? Responsible drinking is an issue all around us. However, we fail to acknowledge what responsible drinking actually is. In light of the Alpha Delta Phi party before spring break, responsible drinking has again been brought to the forefront of campus life. It should not take an incident like as this to bring such an important issue to light.

There are many times when members of our community have acted irresponsibly, yet we pin the problem on drunkenness by making the statement, "oh, he was drunk." Yet drunkenness should not be used as an excuse for any irresponsible behavior. The community should condemn this type of behavior.

That is not to say that we should not have a good time. We should, however, hold our friends accountable for their behavior if it is threatening others' safety or causing unnecessary damage. Drunkenness should not be held as an excuse for any type of behavior. The only thing that excessive drunkenness shows is irresponsibility. We acknowledge that sometimes, especially at college, people drink to excess, but we are always responsible for our actions. Not the college.

The editorial board believes that the right course of action to prevent the worst kind drunkenness and disrespect is for the administration to engage students with alcohol awareness programs. Vague posters with data that students are prone to misinterpretation are not the answer. Another way is for us, as students and human beings, to appreciate our ability to harm our friends and ourselves. We can have fun, but there is no need for destruction and violence. Furthermore, the administration would not be so "draconian," as everybody likes to say, if we were not so careless with the social privileges we have left.

A policy banning certain types of alcohol across the board is not necessarily the right answer to this problem. In fact it may actually contribute to such behavior by encouraging students to drink heavily in their rooms, where accidents are more likely to go unnoticed. This inhibits our ability to encourage our friends to get help for a problem, should one exist. Perhaps the college officers should communicate such an important decision in a more official manner, not by e-mail on the day before break. There should be proper channels through which students can address their concerns about responsible drinking.

But college programs can only do so much. We are young adults, and we ask to be treated as such. We can still drink and have a wild time, but there is simply no need for destruction, violence and blatant disrespect of other peoples' property or safety.

The Spectator

Celebrating our 100th year in print

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Peter Ringel
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The Editorial represents the opinion of a majority of The Spectator *Editorial Board. The Hamilton College* Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. Subscriptions are $60 per year, or $30 per semester. Our offices are located on the third floor of Bristol Campus Center. The deadline for personals, letters, and advertisements is Tuesday the week of publication. For further information, please call (315) 859-4100 or e-mail to spec@hamilton.edu.*

Letters

To the Editor:

While walking to my 10:30 class on Tuesday, I noticed the anti-Greek chalkings on the walkways and smiled a bit. However, my smile did not last long, as I approached a large pentacle drawn on the Dark Side end of Martin's Way. While I'm sure the pentacle was meant to be seen as a "Satanic symbol", and therefore indicative of some kind of "pure evil" inherent in Greek societies, I do not think that it was appropriate. Also, as I continued down Martin's Way, it became less and less apparent in which direction the pentacles were drawn.

For those who are unaware (as I'm sure those who did the chalkings were), the pentacle is a symbol that has been around long before Anton LaVey began the cult of Satanism, and it has never been a symbol of evil when drawn upright. For pagans, like myself, the pentacle symbolizes the perfect balance of the elements: earth, air, fire, water, and spirit, surrounded by and connected to the circle of life, death, and rebirth. For centuries, the pentacle has served as a symbol of the balance that we as humans must strive to achieve.

However, just as Satanists use the upside-down cross as a symbol of their religion, they also use the inverted pentacle (pointing down). Most claim that this inversion of the pentacle means that they value the material over the spiritual. I was deeply offended by the use of the pentacle in the anti-Greek chalking campaign, just as I am certain that Christians would be offended if crosses (upside down or otherwise) were drawn along with the chalkings.

I am not angry at those who did this, I only wish that they would educate themselves about the symbols they use, or that they not use symbols at all. Those of us who wear the pentacle upright wear it with pride - and we see it as our duty to educate those who do not understand this sacred symbol of life and balance.

Signed, A Hamilton Pagan

To the Editor:

This is an open letter to those responsible for the chalkings on Martin's Way Monday night: Although convincing you of the value of the Greek system is probably a lost cause, I would like to point out the essential hypocrisy of your protest message. Along with plenty of taunts and suggestions like "Greeks go home!" were a few that caught my eye: "Freedom is free" and "I don't judge you after 'hello'". Now, as a proud fraternity member, this discrepancy bothered me. Why shouldn't I also have freedom to choose what group I join or who I associate with? Despite the chalked words about not judging, I was being personally condemned as a society member without even a "hello". If you took the time to talk to me or people who know me, the phrase "elitist bastard" would probably not be on the tip of anyone's tongue.

In closing, I would like to point out that I have no disagreement with your right to protest a system you dislike, however you should remember that each of the societies you attack is composed of individuals who deserve the same freedom and respect that you yourselves demand.

Jeff Williams '02
Vice President, Delta Phi

Science in the News

Decoding the human genome

by Jason Vachon '00
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most human cells contain a unique kind of molecules known as nucleic acids. These molecules, which include DNA and RNA, serve as the instructions for the processes that provide the foundation for life. Since James Watson and Francis Crick first discovered DNA's structure in the 1950s, scientists have sought to understand the role of our genetic code. The Human Genome Project seeks to answer many questions about how DNA directs life.

The Human Genome Project ranks among the largest endeavors ever undertaken by human science. In 1990, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Energy (DOE), along with a number of international groups, launched this ambitious project in an attempt to give humanity its most detailed look at the fundamental building blocks of life.

Armed with a budget of nearly $2.2 billion since 1988, including $315.5 million last year, researchers have taken on the enormous task of sequencing the 3.5 billion DNA units, called base pairs, that exist in all of our cells.

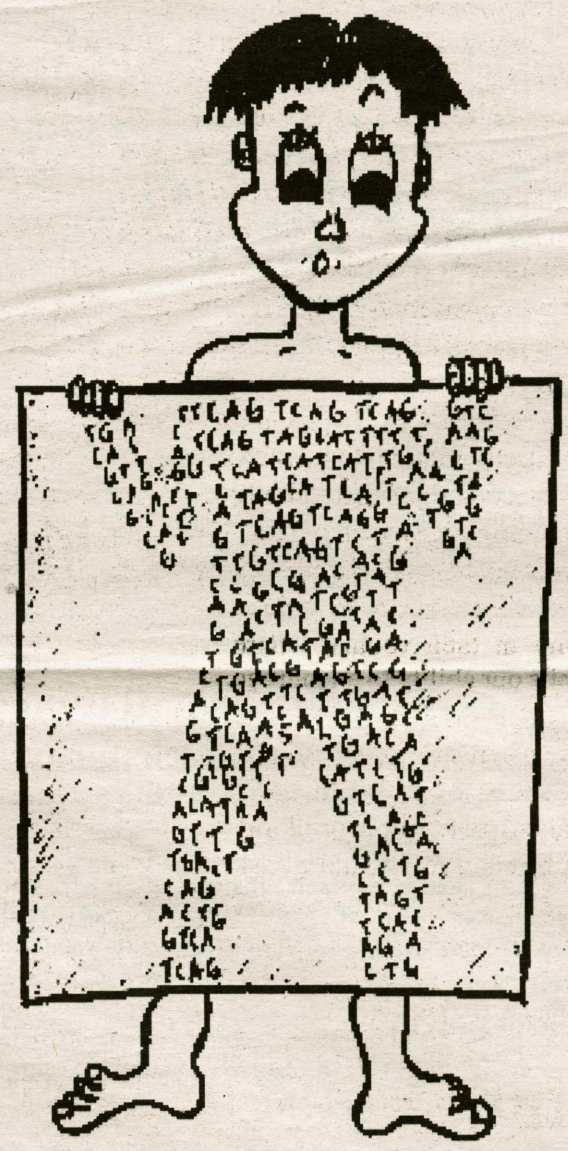
An effort to decode each of the 100,000 genes that make our bodies tick.

An organism's total genetic code is called its genome. DNA is essentially a string of four different chemicals that are organized into unique sequences called genes. Genes dictate protein production, cell growth and organism function. Knowing the code of our genes, scientists believe, will enable them to use genetic technologies to treat or prevent a host of diseases and disorders, from sickle cell anemia to cancer.

The goals of the Human Genome Project are lofty. Researchers hope to identify each of the 100,000 genes that direct biological functions, determine the DNA sequence of these genes, store this data, and develop new tools for analyzing this wealth of information.

Originally the project was slated to run 15 years, producing a final sequence with approximately 99.9% accuracy by 2005. With advances in technologies that read the DNA sequence, this timeline has been shortened to 13 years, with a working rough copy of the sequence planned for publication in the summer of 2000. Progress over the past several years has been rapid.

Initial research and development efforts concentrated on creating better techniques and technologies for improved sequencing efficiency, while later work has gone into the actual sequencing work. In December, the entirety of chromosome 22 was completely mapped. As of the end of February, 80.5% of the project had been completed, with 17% of the genome project in its "final draft" form.



The enormous investment of taxpayer and private dollars won't be without a significant return, the scientists and stockholders invested in the project hope. The information gathered will have an immense impact on a variety of fields. It is anticipated that the technology and data produced will be worth more than $45 billion to the US biotechnology industry by the year 2009, according to the Oak Ridge National Laboratories, one of the major players in the project.

DNA technologies have widespread uses in many areas. Police investigators currently employ a technique called DNA fingerprinting to identify and track criminals. Anthropologists follow human migratory patterns by examining genetic similarity, while evolutionary biologists construct complex phylogenic trees to map species evolution.

But perhaps the largest benefit will be the vast medical applications of this information. Scientists and doctors will gain an in-depth look at the molecular mechanisms controlling our bodies. This information could be critical for diagnosing and treating many cancers and hundreds of genetic illnesses.

The basic process for sequencing DNA is not terribly complex. First the chromosomes, which range in size from 50-250 million base pairs, are broken down into smaller pieces. These small pieces are then used as templates for the production of even smaller fragments. These fragments are constructed using fluorescent dyes (a different one for each of the four bases) that computers can detect to determine the sequence of the particular DNA strand. Segments of DNA are sequenced several times to prevent mistakes from occurring, and the variance between sample sources is taken into account. After all, my DNA is slightly different from yours, or else we'd be twins.

Despite the benefits that the Human Genome Project will bring, many legitimate concerns remain over the usage of this information. For example, could a new form of eugenics, based on genetic "superiority" arise in the near future? To examine this and other issues, the NIH has devoted about 5% of its annual budget to ethical, legal, and social issues (ELSI). This program seeks to identify the implications of this new information on society, as well as how public policy should be shaped to mitigate any problems that result. A variety of issues such as screening for genetic diseases, gene patents, and genetic enhancement have been and continue to be debated.

For more information about the Human Genome Project, check out http://www.ornl.gov/TechResources/Human_Genome/.

Clinton issues executive order barring genetic discrimination

President Clinton last month signed an executive order that prohibits federal agencies from using genetic information in making employment decisions to hire, promote, or dismiss federal employees. As a result of the advancements in the field of genetics over the past ten years, public concern has begun to arise over whether employers discriminate against workers whose genetic information points to possible health problems in the future.

At issue is the use of genetic information to exclude workers who might be susceptible to conditions that would lead to earlier retirement or high health care costs. Supporters of the order argue that genetic discrimination is already affecting decisions to have genetic testing that may help to predict future health problems.

A recent *New York Times* article sites a study released by the National Center for Gemome Resources that found 63 percent of respondents would not undergo genetic testing if the results were accessible to insurers or employers. Thus, those who could benefit from early detection now fear they would lose their jobs if they agree to have the genetic tests performed.

Opponents contend that employers need to consider genetic predisposition to future conditions that may affect job performance. They used the example of an air traffic controller whose genetic code makes him or her susceptible to sudden, fatal hearts attacks. Would one want such a person watching over our "friendly skies"?

Clinton, Tony Blair call for public access to genome data

President Clinton and British Prime Minster Tony Blair told leaders of the biotechnology industry on March 14 that they have a moral duty to openly publish data collected from the human genome project. In their statement, Blair and Clinton stressed that "public access to this information will promote discoveries that will reduce the burden of disease, improve health around the world and enhance the quality of life for all humankind."

With the $3 billion Human Genome Project approaching a conclusion in a few years, Clinton and Blair are concerned that a rush to privatize the code could hinder future research and innovation. Their statement, according to a recent *LA Times* article, is intended to "raise the public profile of a debate that has been conducted in the arcane languages of patent law and science."

Biotech stocks responded quickly to the statement. Major genome project corporations suffered huge losses, and the NASDAQ composite, which is rich with biotech stocks, also suffered soon after the announcement.

According to the *Boston Globe*, investors misinterpreted the statement, and the sell-off devalued biotech stocks by about $30 billion. Stockholders believed the patents that make genetic information profitable were in jeopardy. In fact, patents are still valid; Clinton and Blair were addressing the ethical issues behind genome research.

Global warming: a major threat?

Conflicting evidence makes it hard to say for sure if the planet is warming up, but the question remains.

by Mike Farrell '00
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was inspired to write this article while sitting outside in a t-shirt last month. A t-shirt in mid February? There must be something wrong, I thought. And there is. It is called global warming. Though there remains dispute about whether or not global warming is actually happening, there is little scientific doubt that our atmosphere has changed significantly since the onset of the Industrial Revolution of the mid-1800s.

Levels of carbon dioxide, a byproduct of burning fossil fuels like gasoline, coal or heating oil, have risen substantially over the last 50 years, according to readings taken in Mauna Loa, Hawaii. Two thirds of this change has been attributed to deforestation, especially in the tropical rainforests of developing nations.

A natural cycle exists between plants, which consume carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, and humans, who inhale oxygen and breath out carbon dioxide. Less plants means more carbon dioxide builds up in the atmosphere. The remaining one third of the cardon dioxide increase has been brought about by the burning of fossil fuels for factories, power plants and cars. With growing industry, demand for electricity and cars (especially gas-guzzling sport utility vehicles), consumption of fossil fuels and production of carbon dioxide has reached alarming levels according to some environmentalists.

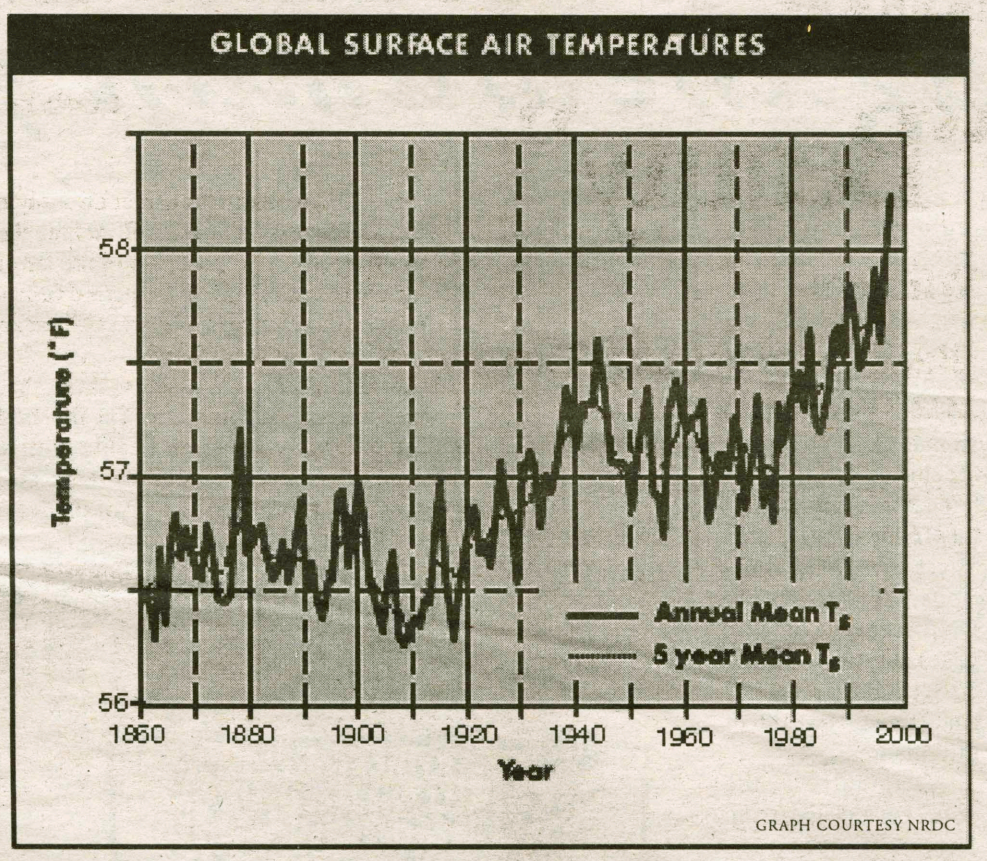
Greenhouse gasses trap sunlight that would normally bounce off Earth and go back into space. More solar energy warms the planet.

Global warming happens when the Earth's atmosphere is warmed by the greenhouse effect. Certain gases, such as carbon dioxide and water vapor, trap solar radiation that would otherwise be reflected off the Earth's surface and back out into space. The increase in energy from the sun warms our planet.

But the greenhouse effect must also be understood as a critical component of life on Earth. Without this process, the Earth would be extremely cold and unable to support much life. The heart of the debate is whether or not the additional carbon dioxide, methane and other greenhouse gases we are pumping into the atmosphere are indeed causing the Earth to become warmer than it would normally be.

Many scientists believe we can not make drastic changes to the composition of our atmosphere and expect global climate and weather patterns to remain constant. While it is impossible to predict what is going to happen, the question remains. There are many theories on how increased carbon dioxide will affect global climate, but these are only theories.

Global weather systems are incredibly complex because they involve so many variables and poorly understood natural phenomena. Science is not currently able to determine what will happen to our entire planet over a long period. But many studies, particularly work by NASA, have suggested that a warming trend has been occurring over the last 120 years.



GRAPH COURTESY NRDC

Though there have been fluctuations, the smoking gun, scientists say, is that global temperatures have increased by approximately 1 degree since 1880, with 8 of the 10 warmest years happening since 1980. Temperatures are projected to continue to rise 3.6 degrees over the next century, and although that does not seem like much, global temperatures were only 9 degrees less during the most recent ice age.

Changing temperatures can cause a shifting of biomes and habitats, leading many species that are unable to adapt to go extinct. Changes in temperature, rainfall and plant distribution could affect migratory routes, feeding behavior and mating habits of many animal species, from insects to elephants.

Additionally, the World Health Organization (WHO) claims that "global warming could cause the spread of malaria and other tropical diseases to millions of people presently free of them." Diseases such as malaria (which are organisms themselves) are capable of surviving in warm environments. As previously cooler regions of the globe warm up, the fear is that dangerous diseases may find suitable living conditions further north, toward places like the United States and Europe.

One of the most devastating effects could be the rise in sea level due to the purported melting of polar ice caps and glaciers. This would put many coastal lands and islands at risk and wreak havoc on everything from coral reef ecosystems to swordfish, shrimp and tuna industries. Changing water temperatures could also drastically alter ocean currents, which have a significant effect on marine ecosystems and coastal climates.

The meteorological phenomenon known as El Nino, which scientists claim is responsible for erratic periods of flood and drought in the last decade, is suspected to be a result of increased warm water flows in the Pacific Ocean. There are a number of worldwide organizations devoted to finding real solutions to the climate change problem.

The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a consortium of government officials from across the globe who specialize in climatology, conduct research on significant issues related to global warming and frequently publish reports. The Conference of the Parties (COP), set up at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC), also meets regularly in order to develop policies to curb global warming. The COP recently developed the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to force countries to reduce their carbon dioxide emissions to 1990 levels.

Despite President Clinton's signing of the Kyoto protocol in November of 1998, the United States, only four percent of the human population, continues to produce some 20 percent of the world's greenhouse gasses. Further action is needed by Congress to ensure that the United States is committed to fighting a potentially devastating trend.

Scientists at Columbia University's Biosphere 2 Center in Arizona are also studying the effects of increased carbon dioxide on plants and coral reefs, which have been subjected to twice the level of carbon within the glass walls on the Biosphere.

It is up to each of us to be smart about consuming energy. Turn off lights, drive less and don't waste.

So what can you do to stop global warming? Sport utility vehicles are a good place to start. Due to their low gas mileage, they can emit up to 5 times the level of pollutants as more efficient automobiles. It is expected that the number of cars on our planet will double by the year 2030, so we have to start doing our part today.

Finally, make an effort to support environmental organizations such as the Wilderness Society and the Rainforest Alliance. They need money to help protect the planet from industrial development and environmental exploitation. If you are interested in global warming, and want to learn more about it, a great place to start is the EPA's website, http://www.epa.gov/globalwarming.

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Arts & Entertainment

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List of 1999 Oscar Winners

Best Picture
AMERICAN BEAUTY

Directing
AMERICAN BEAUTY

Best Actor
KEVIN SPACEY

Best Actress
HILARY SWANK

PHOTO COURTESY OF OSCAR.COM
Swank holding her award

Best Original Screenplay
AMERICAN BEAUTY

Best Adapted Screenplay
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES

Best Cinematography
AMERICAN BEAUTY

Film Editing
THE MATRIX

Best Art Direction
SLEEPY HOLLOW

Original Score
THE RED VIOLIN

Best Foreign Language Film
ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER

Visual Effects
THE MATRIX

Sound Effects Editing
THE MATRIX

PHOTO BY WARNER BROS.
The outstanding effects of *The Matrix*

Best Supporting Actor
MICHAEL CAINE

PHOTO BY MIRAMAX FILMS
Caine in *The Cider House Rules*

Original Song
TARZAN

Best Supporting Actress
ANGELINA JOLIE

Makeup
TOPSY-TURVY

Sound
THE MATRIX

Costume Design
TOPSY-TURVY

Movie Review

By Matt Olney

Topsy-Turvy

Mike Leigh has built a career on studying the family. *Life Is Sweet, Career Girls, High Hopes*, and *Secrets and Lies* all include the family theme. Though his latest film *Topsy-Turvy* strays from his past path of the family, it is similar in one way: it studies the theme of unusual relationships. It is a period film which dates back to 1880s London and examines the relationship between William Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan and how they come to create their famous play *The Mikado*.

Jim Broadbent is William Gilbert, the librettist of the duo and Allan Corduner plays Arthur Sullivan, the composer. The first half of the film focuses on how Gilbert and Sullivan almost split up in 1884 for creative differences. Their previous play *Princess Ida* only received marginal reviews. Frustrated, the outgoing, socialite Sullivan is more interested in writing serious music instead of tunes for the uptight, hampered Gilbert's upside-down plots.

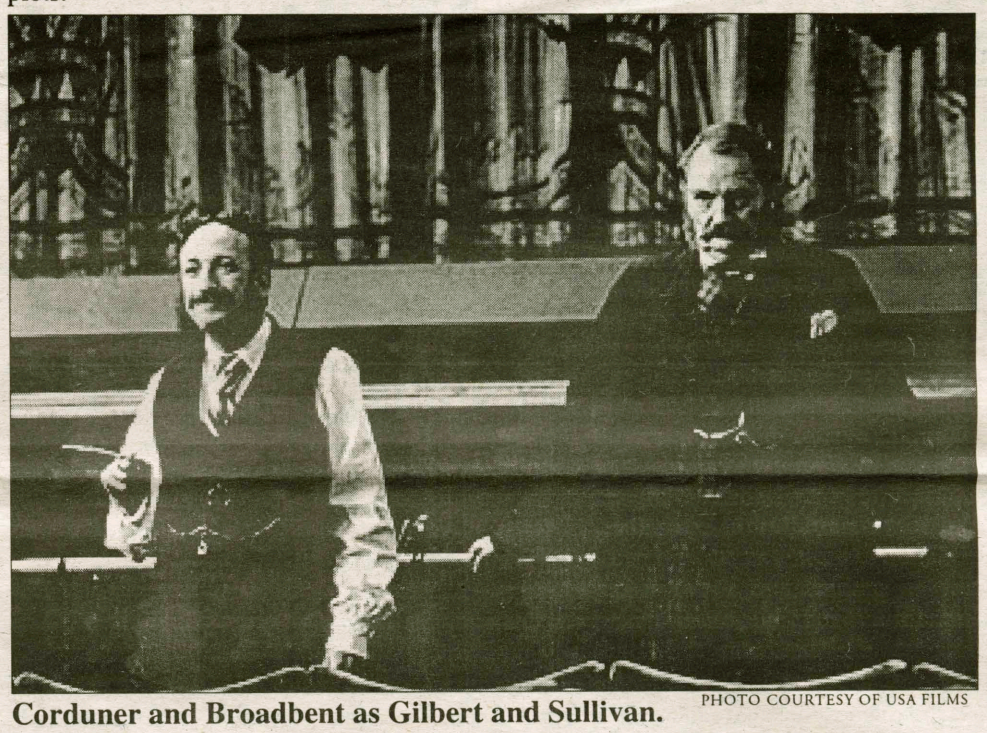

PHOTO COURTESY OF USA FILMS
Corduner and Broadbent as Gilbert and Sullivan.

The second half of the film recounts how *The Mikado* was made, and its triumphant opening night success at the famous Savoy theater. It starts when Gilbert visits a Japanese market with his wife and becomes fascinated with the Japanese culture. This becomes the inspiration behind the play, which ultimately saves Gilbert and Sullivan's relationship.

It is evident that Mike Leigh heavily researched the material for this film. *Topsy-Turvy* goes backstage to rehearsals, make-up and costume fits. We see how the song *Mikado* is originally cut from the piece but after protest from the cast is put back in the play. The film even takes us into the lives of Gilbert and Sullivan. We find Gilbert to be distant from his wife, while Sullivan is free spirited and outgoing with his family and the public. We also see the way in which their personalities effect their work.

PHOTO COURTESY OF USA FILMS
Mike Leigh directs Timothy Spall in *Topsy-Turvy*.

It is amazing to think that this is Leigh's first period film. The costume designs, set designs and make-up are all incredible, certainly deserving of the Academy Awards they won. The speech and word choice all fit the times (with everyone calling everyone else Mr. and Miss) and the witty British humor adds spice.

The acting is superb as well. To find actors that actually look like the characters they are playing and have them act as well as they do is rare. Broadbent, a Leigh regular, is wonderful as always as is Timothy Spall (whose role in another of Leigh's films entitled *Life Is Sweet* is unforgettable). Overshadowing the ensemble cast is Allen Corduner, whose eccentric performance as Sullivan is one of the year's best.

Topsy-Turvy has it all: a great script, wonderful acting and most of all, it reminds us of what it was like in theater world in 1880s London. It also reminds us that nothing is more important than the power of personal expression, and the genius this power yields when put to the test.

Video Review By Darcy Lewis

Stigmata

Over the past year there has been an abundance of horror films, many of them focused on ideas of religion. Satan was a big issue coming as we approached the millennium, and more of these movies are coming out everyday. We had *The Sixth Sense*, an intelligent thriller with an unforgettable ending, and thankfully did not focus so much on the Evil One. Others tried to take horror back to the head spinning days of The Exorcist. We got movies like *End of Days* with Arnold Shwarzenegger, who is better off in action than the horror genre. Following that were movies like *The Ninth Gate, The Blair Witch Project*, and the list goes on. *Stigmata* follows in the tradition , but doesn't come anywhere near to achieving the kind of fright that *The Sixth Sense* delivers.

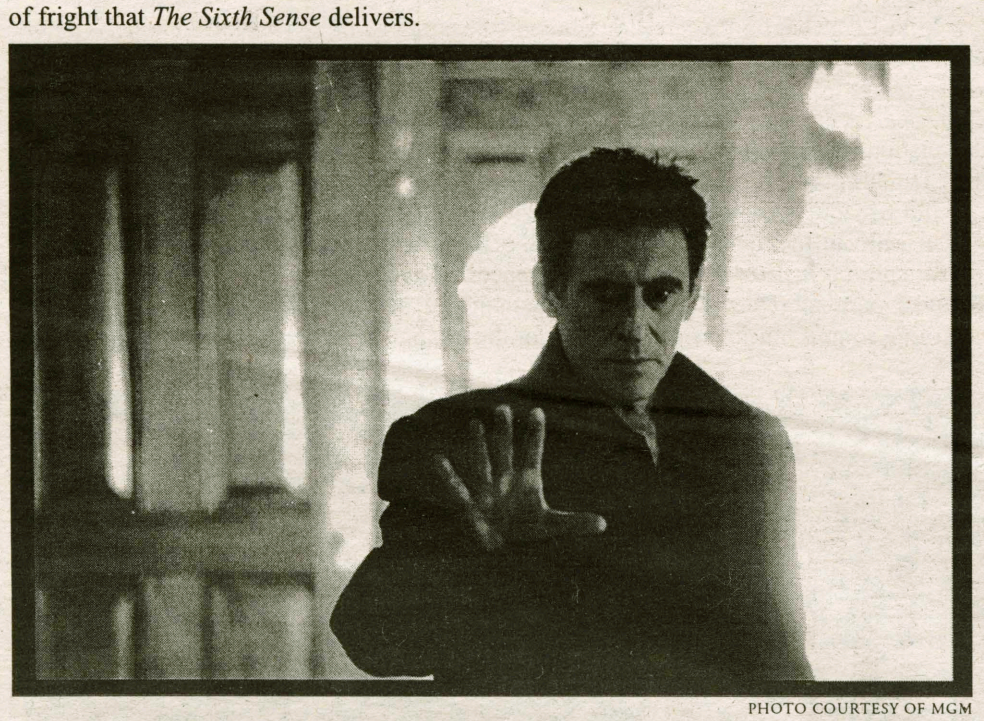

PHOTO COURTESY OF MGM

Gabriel Byrne holding off the evil spirits in *Stigmata* .

Rupert Wainwright, who is known mostly for making music videos, directs this film. His limited talents shine through. Most of this movie looks like a very dark music video for some ultra-hip rock band. It stars three very talented actors, Gabriel Byrne (The Usual Suspects), Patricia Arquette (True Romance), and Jonathon Pryce (Something Wicked This Way Comes, Evita), but all the star power in the world can't save this story and script. The movie revolves around Frankie Page (Arquette), a 23 year old who is perfectly content with her hairdresser by day, party-girl by night existence. One day her Mom sends her a package from her trip abroad that contains a rosary snatched from the death grip of a very influential, but now very dead priest. This is where the trouble begins. Frankie is not at all religious, which begs the question, why on earth would her Mother send her a rosary? In fact, there are a lot of questions that can be raised by the inconsistencies in the movie. All of a sudden Frankie begins to experience trippy attacks where she is afflicted with stigmata, when a person appears to have the same five wounds that Christ received in his Crucifixion. Enter Gabriel Byrne, the expert Vatican priest, and the only one who can save her.

This movie relies on some tired camera tricks to try and scare you: water dripping up, lots of blood, etc. I didn't find this the least bit frightening. In fact, some parts were funny, including a possession scene that made me laugh the rest of the film. The script is weak, and the direction is tedious. Though in some parts of the movie I found myself interested in the idea of the stigmata itself, and this kept me wanting to find out what happens in this decidedly odd movie. If you are looking for an entertaining, not too intelligent, mildly scary film, then Stigmata is your best bet.

What's Goin' On

The Best of what's happening on and off campus

Hamilton Classic Film Society Presents

ALL THAT JAZZ
Starring Roy Schneider, Jessica Lange
Directed by Bob Fosse
Friday, March 31 10:00 PM KJ Aud
Saturday, April 6:00 PM KJ Aud

Samuel Kirkland film Society Presents

Sleepy Hollow
Academy Award Winner: Best Art Direction
Starring Johnny Depp and Christina Ricci
Directed by Tim Burton
Friday, March 31 7:30 PM KJ Aud
Saturday, April 1 10:00 PM KJ Aud
Sunday, April 2 7:30 PM KJ Aud

Little Pub Presents

Joe Ferlo Quartet
Wednesday, April 5 9:00 PM

Jumbo Shrimp
Friday, April 7 9:00 PM

Munson Williams-Proctor Institute

The Red Violin
Academy Award Winner: Best Original Score
Directed by Francois Girard
Starring Samuel L. Jackson
Wednesday, April 5 7:30 PM Museum of Art Auditorium
Admission is $7.00

Kirkland Art Center Coffeehouse Series Presents

Robin & Linda Williams and Their Fine Group
Friday, March 31 8:00 PM $10
for more information, call 853-8871

Kirkland Art Center Film Series

The Straight Story
Directed by David Lynch
Starring Richard Farnsworth
Sunday, April 2
Clinton Cinema $4.00

The Straight Story is based on an actual event that was covered on national news about an elderly man, Alvin Straight, who undertook a long Midwestern journey on a riding lawnmower after losing his driver's license. Farnsworth earned an Oscar nomination for his portrayel of Alvin Straight.

Want your events in What's Going On? e-mail The Spectator at spec@hamilton.edu

WHCL's Top Albums

1 DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE We Have the Facts and We're Voting Yes Barsuk

2 JUNIOR VARSITY Bam Bam Bam! Peek A Boo

3 BEACHWOOD SPARKS Beachwood Sparks Sub Pop

4 PEDRO THE LION Winners Never Quit Jade Tree

5 PAPAS FRITAS Buildings And Grounds Minty Fresh

6 STARLET Stay On My Side Parasol

7 TREMBLING BLUE STARS Broken By Whispers Sub Pop

8 VARIOUS ARTISTS Moshi Moshi March

9 JAPANCAKES Down the Elements Kindercore

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2000 Major League Baseball Picks

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American League Central	Indians	Indians	Royals	Indians
American League West	A's	Rangers	Angels	A's
American League Wild Card	Red Sox	Red Sox	Red Sox	Red Sox
National League East	Braves	Braves	Braves	Braves
National League Central	Reds	Astros	Astros	Houston
National League West	Diamondbacks	Diamondbacks	Giants	Diamondbacks
National League Wild Card	Astros	Reds	Reds	Mets
American League Champ	Yankees	Indians	Red Sox	Red Sox
National League Champ	Diamondbacks	Braves	Reds	Braves
World Series Champ	Yankees	Braves	Red Sox	Red Sox

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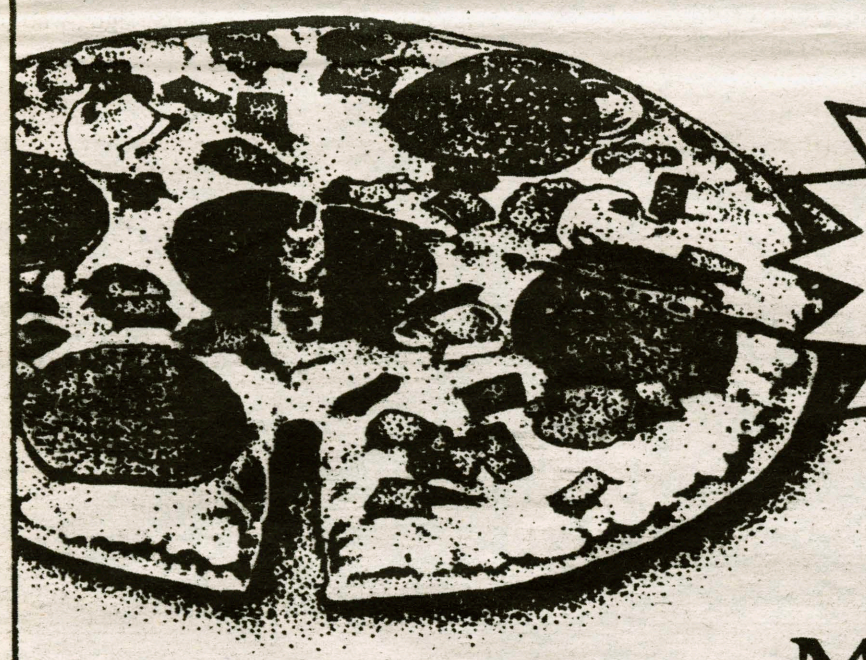

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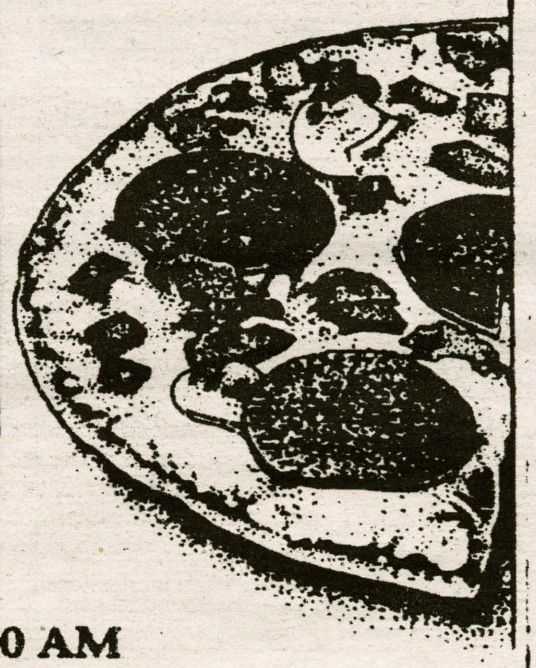

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Seniors Shine in Final Game

By J.P. LeBlanc '01
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton Continentals men's ice hockey team ended its season with a 5-2 loss at Middlebury College.

It was an end to another solid Conts campaign. Hamilton went 15-8-3 and at one point was nationally ranked.

The men's ice hockey team has nothing to be upset about as this team played hard every night.

The loss came at the hands of five-time defending champions Middlebury College. The Continentals came ready to play, but according to head coach Phil Grady they might have been a little too eager.

Hamilton committed six penalties in the first period, one of which cost the Conts a goal. Evidently, Hamilton did not learn from their mistakes as they continued to pile up penalties in the second period.

Grady feels "that a team cannot allow a team as skilled as Middlebury to play a man up because they have so much talent." Despite an outstanding effort by senior goaltender Brent Davey, Middlebury College scored three power play goals in the second period.

By playing a man down so often, the Continentals created few scoring opportunities of their own. The third period was nothing more than textbook Hamilton Continentals hockey.

Coach Grady was extremely pleased at his team's effort in the third period: "We were down but never out. By winning the third period we showed a lot of character."

Hamilton outskated, outhit, and outplayed Middlebury in the third period, but could only manage two goals, including a shorthanded effort by junior Vic Cizmarik.

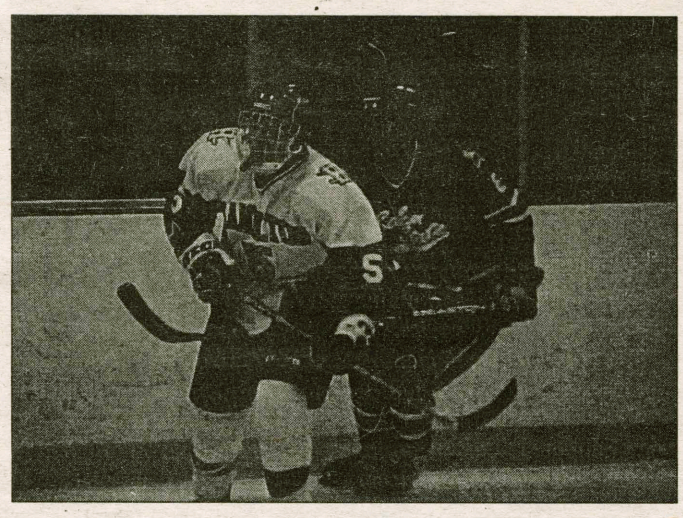

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

Marc Warcup '00 skates past a helpless opponent.

Despite the loss, Grady felt that his players gave their best effort, especially senior goaltender Brent Davey. Davey "played his best hockey of the season" said Grady. There is no shame in playing Middlebury hard in a losing effort.

Not only are the Continentals losing Davey, they will have to replace seven other important seniors. Gone are defensemen Terry Bevan, Bryant Rowean, and Marc Warcup, as well as forwards Brian Grady, Chris Baudo, Mike Phalen, and goaltender Scott Grenier.

This senior class has been to the postseason all four years, winning the ECAC championship in 1998. In fact, three of the seniors have been offered tryouts with the Mohawk Valley Prowlers, a local minor league hockey franchise.

Davey and Baudo are currently practicing with the team, while Brian Grady declined to play his final baseball season. All is not lost for the future. Hamilton has a great core of young players, including defenseman Steve Aubuchon and goalie Dave Scamurra.

Both made the NESCAC All-Rookie team this season. Not to mention junior forward Vic Cizmarik, who lead the team in scoring for the second consecutive year, and sophomore Rob Gordon, who is one of Hamilton's best offensive weapons.

While Hamilton is losing several key players, they have more than enough talent waiting in the wings.

SCOREBOARD

MEN'S LACROSSE
1-3
WOMEN'S LACROSSE
2-2
BASEBALL
3-7
SOFTBALL
1-8
MEN'S BASKETBALL
19-8
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
6-19
MEN'S HOCKEY
15-8-3
WOMEN'S HOCKEY
9-12-2
MEN'S SQUASH
2-8
WOMEN'S SQUASH
10-5

Beat the Experts

Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our devilishly handsome **editors, Peter and David, as well as his or her picture in *The Spectator*.**

Specially Selected Sporting Events	**Peter Ringel** *Spectator Managing Editor* **Last Week: 8-4 To date: 37-23**	**David Zane** *Spectator Editor-in-Chief* **Last Week: 7-7 To date: 30-32**	**Steve Jaynes** *Sports Info. Dir. Athletics* **Last Week: 9-3 To date: 38-22**	**Chris Preston** *Associate Sports Editor* Last Week's Guest: **Matt Olney 8-4**
NBA				
Charlotte at Chicago 4/1	Hornets	Hornets	Hornets	Hornets
Atlanta at Houston 4/1	Rockets	Rockets	Rockets	Rockets
Indiana at Toronto 4/2	Pacers	Raptors	Pacers	Pacers
San Antonio at Miami 4/2	Heat	Heat	Heat	Spurs
New York at LA Lakers 4/4	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
NCAA Basketball				
Michigan St. vs. Wisconsin 4/1	Spartans	Spartans	Spartans	Spartans
Florida vs. North Carolina 4/1	Gators	Gators	Gators	Gators
MLB				
Colorado at Atlanta 4/3	Braves	Braves	Braves	Braves
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis 4/3	Cardinals	Cardinals	Cardinals	Cardinals
New York at Anaheim 4/3	Yankees	Yankees	Yankees	Yankees
Cleveland at Baltimore 4/3	Indians	Indians	Indians	Orioles

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

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ANTONIO'S is open Tuesday, 4 PM to 10PM, Wednesday and Thursday 11AM to 10PM, Friday 11AM to 11PM, Saturday 4 PM to 11PM and Sunday 4 PM to 10 PM. Call ahead to 853-3556 to have your pizza waiting for pick-up or to be savored inside the cafe at the Clinton Shopping Center on Route 12B south of the center of the Village.

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Hanson, Cammarano lead women's track at ECAC's

by Michael Everhart '02
SPORTS WRITER

The women's indoor track and field team finished fifth at the ECAC Championships at Wheaton College on March 4.

The team finished behind Lincoln College, Williams, Wheaton, and Tufts. Co-captain Lynne Myrth '01 said about the team's success, "ECACs at Wheaton College were an excellent opportunity for a lot of our girls to have some outstanding performances.

But it was not just the track and the other facilities that made the Hamilton women a great success that weekend. It was the strength, dedication, and training we have put in all season that helped us come out at the top and end up placing 5th overall out of 62 teams."

Maggie Hanson '02 and Jen Cammarano '02 led the way by finishing first in their respective events, the 1000m and 1500m runs; they also made up half of the distance medley relay team that finished second. Hanson said, "ECAC's was a successful and enjoyable meet. Jen's first place finish in the 1000m run was a definite highlight."

The other two members of the relay team were Amanda Chase '03 and Cristina Freyre '02. Chase also finished eighteenth in the 800m run with a time of 2:23.47.

The 4x200m-relay team, made up of Myrth, Freyre, Roxanne Hoek '03, and Emily Scursso '02, finished sixth with a time of 1:49.36.

In the triple jump Julie Elmuccio '03 and Emily Scursso '02 finished sixth and seventh, respectively, with jumps of 10.90m and 10.84m. Elmuccio also finished fifteenth in the long jump with a jump of 4.87m. In the weight throw Sherri Hamlette '01 finished 21st with a throw of 12m, while Kate Clark '02 finished fifth in the pentathlon with a score of 2841 points.

Hanson's winning time in the 1500m run of 4:36.35 automatically qualified her for the NCAA Championships, and gave her a #2 seed in the 1500m run going into NCAA's.

In the NCAA Championships, after qualifying for the finals in the 1500m run by finishing third in her heat, Hanson finished fourth overall with a time of 4:37.6, which was three seconds off the winning time. Because she was one of the top six finishers, she achieved All-American status.

Coach Ellen Hull said about her performance, "[She] was in contention for the title most of the race. She had a great strategic race. She became boxed in with about 300m to go but was able to pull out of it and finish fourth overall. I'm very proud of Maggie's accomplishments this season. She has been named UCAA, NYSCTC, and NCAA Atlantic Regional athlete of the year. Only six athletes from the national meet are named athletes of the year. Maggie's hard work in and out of practice have paid off for her."

Hanson said, "I missed my team at NCAA's, but it was a great experience. My fourth place finish in the 1500m [run] was a little disappointing, but I'm hoping to use it as motivation for the 3000m [run] in outdoor track."

The team looks to build on its high finish at the ECAC Championships and the UCAA Championships. Hanson said about the upcoming spring season "We're expecting another awesome season this spring, which begins this weekend at Union." They look to repeat as UCAA champions and improve on their standing within the NESCAC. Myrth said about the outdoor season, "Although the season is fairly short, I am looking forward to seeing some great performances from many athletes on the team. The indoor season was a solid training base for the outdoor season and we have most of the girls from the indoor team returning to run outdoors as well.

We also have many new girls joining our outdoor team this year, whom we are looking forward to training and competing with. Because of the great talent and dedication of this team, we can expect the Hamilton College women to do very well in our larger outdoor competitions, including the NYSCTC and NESCAC championships."

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The men's indoor track and field team competed in seven events at the ECAC Championships before spring break. Mac Weiss '02 led the team with a sixth place finish in the 3000m run with a personal best time of 8:49.88.

He commented, "I scored the only point for us at ECAC's. I ran a fantastic PR! I feel great and I will carry it into the outdoor season." In the 1500m run, Sam Brown '01 and Scott Taylor '01 finished ninth and twelfth, respectively, with times of 3:59.81 and 4:01.4. In the 1000m run Doug Zeyak '02 finished tenth with a time of 2:35.84, while Roy Sabo '01 finished fifteenth with a time of 3:06.7.

In the 4x800m relay and distance medley relay, Hamilton finished eighth and tenth, respectively, with times of 8:05.99 and 10:55.2. In the triple jump Sky Gellatly '03 finished thirteenth with a distance of 12.53m, while Jeff Needham '00 finished 22nd in the weight throw with a distance of 13.53m.

The team starts the outdoor season this weekend at Union College, whom they beat both in the winter and last spring. Jeff Garte '00 said about the upcoming season, "The prettiest track team of all time (and in the NESCAC) is looking to improve on what was an already great indoor season and we are happy to see some new pretty faces for the outdoor season. We look forward to competing hard and looking pretty."

The team is looking to improve on its disappointing performance in the NYSCTC Championships and solidify its standing in the NESCAC after an eleventh place finish last spring.

Cortland Ends Men's Hoops NCAA Run

By Art McCann '00
SPORTS WRITER

SUNY Cortland ended the men's basketball team's fantastic season on Saturday, March 4 in the second round of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament.

The game was attended by many Hamilton faithful, who loudly supported the Continentals before a second-half shooting slump made even the Dogg Pound's effort not enough to help overcome Cortland. With their 60-55 victory, Cortland advanced to the sweet sixteen for the second year in a row.

In the first half, Hamilton dominated play, keeping Cortland's home crowd silent as the Continentals frequented the foul line and made 11 of their 13 free throws.

At the half Hamilton led 33-31. However, it was poor foul shooting and an inability to hit open shots that cost Hamilton the game. In the second half, Hamilton shot a dismal 7-28 from the field and only 3-14 on three pointers. They also only made 5 of 11 foul shots.

This brick laying demonstration, coupled with Cortland's ability to consistently get high percentage shots, forced Hamilton to play from behind for much of the second half.

Never the less, with thirty seconds left Hamilton had the ball, down three points, and a chance to tie the game. Jim McCarthy '01, whose season total of 82 three-pointers set a single season Hamilton record, had the exciting opportunity to tie the game.

However, McCarthy's three from the top of the key bounced off the back rim and Hamilton was forced to foul.

Brendan Ferretti '01 paced Hamilton with 11 points, and was the only Continental in double figures. Cortland's size, strength and stingy zone defense forced Hamilton away from the basket, leaving all of the Continentals' scoring hopes in the hands of their normally steady jump shooters.

However, the shots did not fall and Cortland's size enabled them to out-rebound Hamilton 44-35. The game was a low-scoring, hard-fought battle that could have gone either way.

In the end, facing a veteran team on the road proved to be too much for Hamilton. One thing is for certain, though: Hamilton will have every opportunity to repeat and build upon their successful season.

For many of Hamilton's young players, the loss will serve as a sour memory that may only be erased next season. With every player returning, Hamilton's own expectations will be high and fans will expect another spectacular year.

However, no shadows should be cast over this past season. Hamilton advanced to their sixth consecutive NCAA tournament, and more importantly, the boys in blue ignited our winter with hard play and exciting basketball.

Thank you, team, for a great season. You were truly fun to watch.

Softball Stumbles On The Road

by Brenna Chiaputti '02
SPORTS WRITER

"Intellectual, receptive, coachable, dedicated, not to mention good people." This is how Coach Susan Keller described the women's softball team for the year 2000.

Keller joins second year coach Perry Nizzi and a team of 14 in her first year of coaching at Hamilton.

Led by junior co-captains Abby McDermott and Korey O'Malley and seniors Carolyn Fichera, Heather Hopkins, Kara Brendlen, and Amanda Chamovitch (who is out for the season due to a knee injury), this year's team is optimistic about their chances at a winning season.

In addition to what seems to be an amazing amount of positive energy, the Continentals have an experienced and hard-working lineup in their favor. Coming off of an overall 12-17 record last year, this year's team is small but loaded, having lost only one player from last year's squad.

Karen Pogonowski '02 and McDermott combine for the second season in a row to form an experienced and powerful pitcher-catcher combo. McDermott has been the starting catcher for the past three years.

Pogonowski was both the starting pitcher and the leading hitter on the team last year. Erin Thorkilsen '02 will also be pitching this season and starting in right field.

O'Malley will play shortstop while freshman phenom Steph Dunn steps in at third base.

Fichera and Hopkins will be at first and second, respectively, completing a veteran cast of infielders (with the exception of Dunn).

This will be an advantage for the team this year. The team will look for the leadership and consistency that the upperclassmen provide as well as the added punch that the newer players such as Dunn and Pogonowski can throw.

"We have a lot of players returning so we're not starting from scratch with our chemistry," commented McDermott.

The team will have obstacles to overcome. This year's team has to adjust to a new coach, a smaller squad, and a new cast of outfielders, yet few seem worried that these factors will stand in the way of a successful season.

In contrast, the smaller team has made it easier for them to get to know each other better, and the presence of assistant coach Perry Nizzi gives the team consistency.

The team's preseason trip to Fort Myers, Florida was a test both on and off the field.

"The competition was tough but was better preparation for the regular season schedule," says Keller. Although the team went 1-8, the experience proved to be valuable in learning to work together and form a tightly knit unit.

The overall season forecast is a positive one. "I definitely have high hopes for the season. There is no reason why we shouldn't. We have a lot of talent; it just comes down to putting things together," commented O'Malley.

The softball team will play at UCAA rival RIT today and will play SUNY Utica / Rome in the home opener on April 5th.

Sports

High Expectations for Women's Lacrosse

By Chris Preston '03
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

After a mediocre showing last year in which they posted a record of 6-9, the women's lacrosse team entered their first season in this new milleniun with high hopes.

Having lost just three key players to graduation—Nicole Vaughn, Alice Warner, and Kathy Blanton—the Continentals had a solid nucleus returning.

Among the returnees are junior co-captains Caitlin Wakefield and Sarah Gloo, along with the other co-captain, senior Shannon Mercier. Two additional reasons as to why the team has such high hopes this year are Kristen Engster '01 and Adrien Moseley '01. Both Engster and Moseley have already made significant contributions.

To begin the season the team traveled to sunny Panama City, Florida, a pleasant change in climate from the treacherous mid-March weather of upstate New York.

But while basking in 80 degree weather was a nice aspect of the trip, the Continentals knew the main task at hand was to prove that their high preseason expectations were justified.

Their first game, against MIT, did little to damage those high expectations. The Continentals dominated, winning 16-6 and receiving contributions from everyone.

Gloo led the way with three goals and Anneke Van Leer '01, Helena Marrin '03, Melissa Stillman '03 each chipped in with two goals apiece.

Starting goal tender Jessica Asrican '01 made four saves while backup goalie, freshman Nicole Cheatle, chipped in with three.

The Continentals had little time to celebrate, however, as their next opponent would be NESCAC powerhouse Trinity. This was an extremely tough, hard-fought battle to the end in which Trinity narrowly prevailed, 10-9.

Still, the Continentals had to feel good about themselves heading into Friday's final matchup versus another NESCAC team, Tufts.

Tufts had beaten the Continentals soundly the year before so to emerge victorious this time would do wonders to help establish Hamilton as a better lacrosse team than last year. Like the Trinity game, this one came down to the wire.

Gloo had 11 total points, with a whopping five goals and an assist. Wakefield also added two goals and an assist.

But the difference in this game, in which the Continentals won, 14-13, was perhaps the major contributions from Engster and Moseley.

Engster had four big goals, making every shot on goal she took, while Moseley added another goal in 55 minutes of playing time. That one goal was all the Continentals needed to escape Panama City with an impressive 2-1 record to open the season.

"I thought we had a really good showing," coach Karen Hollands remarked. "We played well all week and it was a good test for us."

And as for those high expectations? "I had high expectations and last week they were met. Our goal is to secure a home site for the postseason UCAA tournament."

If the Continentals continue to see improvement from their returning upperclassmen and continue to receive significant contributions from players such as Engster, Moseley and Marrin, they have a good chance of fulfilling those high expectaions.

"We have a cohesive unit and we play very well as a team," Coach Hollands continued. "We just need to work on our transition attack and utilize our speed."

Unfortunately, this past Wednesday the Continentals suffered a somewhat lopsided loss at home to highly touted William Smith, who is currently ranked fourth in the latest Division III poll.

Hamilton took the lead early with goals from Engster and Wakefield. However, the Herons answered back, scoing seven goals in three and a half minutes. What was a close game became a second-half rout as the Herons began to impose their up-tempo, fast-breaking style, resulting in many Continental turnovers. Asircan finished with six saves for the Continentals.

Hopefully the team will be able to bounce back and continue to make progress towards meeting Coach Hollands' high expectations. Come and find out for yourself on Tuesday, April 4 at Love Field.

Men's Baseball Holds Its Own Against Texas Teams

By Art McCann '00
SPORTS WRITER

The rainy month of April in Central New York does little to remind us that it is baseball season. While we can only wait for the good weather, here at Hamilton College it really is baseball season.

The weather is yet to inspire barbecues and double-headers, but the men's baseball team has been practicing for almost two months and they have recently returned from San Antonio, Texas with farmer's tans and thawed bats.

In San Antonio, the Continentals totaled three wins against seven losses. The team split their first two games against Webster College, losing the opener 12-6 and winning the second game 5-4. After a 19-0 drubbing at the hands of hit-happy National Christian College, the team won two games in a row.

Wins over Carleton College and Doane College raised Hamilton's record to 3-2. Unfortunately, Hamilton dropped their second game against Doane 9-8 in 10 innings and then lost their next four games, including two against Trinity University (TX), one more to Carleton College, and one loss to Texas Lutheran.

Regardless of their record the team is happy with their play and confident heading into the UCAA schedule. Senior catcher and co-captain Dino Mazzotta knows that the Continentals can win in the UCAA.

Mazotta said, " We open next weekend against the league's two best programs, RPI and Skidmore, so our pitching and defense will be put to the test right away.

As always, if our pitching and defense are consistent we will have opportunities to win most of our games."

FILE PHOTO

A Continental batter prepares to explode on an inside pitch.

It appears that the Continentals' pitching staff is indeed deep and talented. Returning to the mound for the Continentals are juniors Steve Guillette, Andy Berman and Nick Peterson, sophomores Matt Marsallo and Jaime Harrison, and senior Sam Bono.

Also, freshman pitcher Jason Wellen has proved to be another strong arm. In ten innings pitched he has given up no earned runs and only 4 hits to go with 5 strikeouts.

Leading the Continentals' offensive output will be senior first baseman Brian Grady. Grady is leading the team in a number of offensive categories, including homeruns (2) and RBI (8). Grady is batting .310 with 9 hits in 29 at-bats. Senior second baseman and co-captain Andy Revell is second on the team in hits with six.

For the Continentals to win, they must receive increased run production from power hitters Mazzotta and designated hitter Nick Moore '00.

Look for their big bats to score speed demons Guillette, Bono and outfielder Aaron Tarr '02, all of whom bat at the top of the order. Tarr is leading the team with a .364 batting average and 10 walks.

The Continentals play their first home game Thursday, April 13 against SUNY Oneonta.

With a strong nucleus of returning players and a deep pitching staff fans should expect to see an improved Hamilton team. Let us just hope the sun comes out and we can all enjoy another great season.

Men's Lacrosse Defeats Utica

By Brent Lowinger '02
SPORTS WRITER

Tell them anything you want, but please do not tell the 2000 version of the Hamilton men's lacrosse team about last year's squad. This is not last year's team. This is not even close to last year's team.

This team has a new look, a prolific offense, and defensive stoppers that are looking to lock down the opposition. This team is ready to explode.

1-11 is not going to do it this year. This team does not have any excuses. Yes, they are young, but the sophomores have experience and the freshmen have outstanding leaders to look up to.

The dedication and talent is there, and the team is starting to come together. They started the season with a 1-3 record. After a commanding 18-9 victory over Utica College, the team lost each of the next three games by four goals or less.

Two of these losses came at the hands of NESCAC rivals Bowdoin and Trinity. Those teams are ranked #13 and #20 in the nation, respectively.

Head coach Kevin Gilmartin commented, "Our losses to Bowdoin and Trinity were tough because we played well but wereunable to come away with a win.

The games did show us that we can play with the top teams in the nation and we have a lot of confidence going into UCAA play. That is what really counts anyway."

This is true, because if the team is looking to get into the national playoffs it will have to qualify through play in the UCAA and New York State.

Leading the team into league play this spring is a mixture of seasoned veterans and young talent. The offense is good. The offense is real good. With proven scorers Matt Green '00 and Brad Schwalm '02 joined on attack by freshmen Matt Silverio, the offense is looking to spread out and produce more balanced and more frequent scoring than in years past.

The trio has accounted for 21 of the team's 39 goals so far this season and they look to add even more as UCAA play begins.

Can you say defer ? This team can. In their first four games, only once did Hamilton give up more than ten goals in a game. The biggest improvement comes in the net, a place where the team experienced quite a controversy last year.

The only controversy this year may be who is best for the job. Brad Wolcott '02 has edged out Jason Mleczco '03 and James Cole '01 for the starting job, but with all three at a save percentage above 65 percent, the team has confidence in whoever is in net.

Maybe this is too much pressure for the team. Maybe they will crumble under my scrutiny and high expectations, but I do not think so.

This team is good, period. Now all they have to do is prove it.

The tests will come this weekend as Hamilton takes on SUNY Utica on Friday at four on Love Field, and hated NESCAC rival Williams on Sunday at Williams.

How far has the team come in one year? We will soon find out.